‘Learning, Understanding, Achieving’

’Building secure foundations to inspire happy, healthy and successful lives’

Beighton Nursery Infant School

Newsletter- Autumn 2- December ‘23

Headteacher Message

It has been a long term and the children (and staff) are ready for a well-deserved break. There has been so much magic in the air with Christmas Fairs, Nativities, Elves, Singing and more….but I think everyone is ready for some quality family time.

I hope that you all have a peaceful and happy Christmas break and come back raring to go in the New Year.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Staffing News

Two fantastic members of staff are retiring and will be leaving us at the end of December.

Mrs Taylor has worked in our school for over 26 years. She has supported so many children over the years and even taught some of our current parents! She is such a committed, dedicated and hard-working member of the team and we will be sorry to see her go.

Mrs Clark has been with us for less time, but has still had a huge impact. She has worked with children and their families across our school and is well known by everyone. She is supportive, positive and has a calming influence wherever she goes. A parent once told me that ‘Every school needs a Mrs Clark’ and I couldn’t agree more.

I’m sure you will join me in saying ‘Thank you’ for everything they have done for the children at Beighton. We will miss them so much and I will hardly recognise the place without them in it. I hope they both keep in touch and come and volunteer whenever they can!

Adopt a Care Home

Some of our children have taken part in six ‘Adopt a Care Home’ sessions with the residents at our local care home. It was a pleasure to see the relationships develop during that time. The children have represented our school really well and have been excellent role models. Well done!

Attendance

In January, we will be sending out the 'Statement of Attendance' for the Autumn Term. Good attendance is really important in school. We have a target of 96% for the children's attendance which is the same as the national expectation for Primary Schools.

If your child's attendance is below 90% they are classed as 'persistently absent'. I am really concerned to report that we have 39 children who are persistently absent from school.

Unfortunately it is the season of coughs and colds. We understand that when children are very poorly they mustn't attend school. However, it is fine for children to attend with runny noses, minor coughs and headaches. They miss so much learning and time with their friends when they are not in school.

Well done to the 40 children who have managed to maintain 100% attendance this term. Keep it up!

Ava Whittaker

Ava has decided to raise funds for the Little Princess Trust. This charity provides wigs made from real hair for children and young people who have lost their own hair due to cancer treatment or other illnesses.

Ava has decided to donate her beautiful, long, blonde hair. This charity is especially close to her heart because Ava's grandmother is currently battling lung cancer. Her family want to support this charity by donating Ava's hair so that it can be used to make a wig for a child or young person who is also fighting cancer.

It costs £550 to make a wig and her family would be incredibly grateful for any support you can give to help them try and reach that. Every donation counts and will make a real difference in the lives of children and young people who are going through a difficult time.

Everyone at Beighton is so proud of you Ava!

https://www.justgiving.com/page/jacqui-whittaker-1702405484806?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fjacqui-whittaker-1702405484806&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Choir Club

Well done to our lovely Choir Club who sang at the Christmas Fair but also represented our school at the Family of School's Carol Service at Crystal Peaks. We were very proud of their hard work and beautiful singing. Thank you to Miss Pearson and Mrs Pedder for making this such a success.

Christmas Shows

I am so proud of all the children in school. They have worked so hard on their Christmas performances and singing concerts.

I don't think there was a dry eye in the house when Reception performed their Nativity for the parents and carers! The children were absolutely amazing! They knew all their words, sang beautifully and acted with such professionalism and confidence. Well done.

The Y1s sang beautifully at St Mary's Church in Beighton. Thank you to Father Daniel for letting us do our singing there.

The 'First Nativity' performed by Nursery was perfect. The parents were blown away by their confidence!

The Y2s performed so many songs for the parents and definitely put everyone in the mood for Christmas!

FOBBINS

Thank you to our volunteers at FOBBINS who organised a wonderful Christmas Fair. It was so lovely to see all the parents visiting the many stalls that were on offer. We so appreciate the helpers for giving up their Friday afternoon and standing outside in the freezing cold to raise much needed funds for the school.

Mrs Clark, Mrs Bagnall and Mrs Gage did a fantastic job, once again, of creating a beautiful, magical Santa's Grotto for the children to visit.

Uniform- Polite Reminder

We have noticed an increasing number of children coming to school with accessories that are not part of our uniform policy.

For Health and Safety reasons, we politely request that children do not wear any jewellery to school as it can be dangerous in the playground and in PE. If your child has their ears pierced only small studs should be worn. These will either need to be removed for PE or taped up with medical tape.

We also ask that parents please do not send children to school wearing novelty headbands or similar items. These can be a distraction in class and children may also become distressed if the items are lost or broken.

Measles

Health services across the country are starting to see an increase in the number of cases of measles.

Vaccination against measles (MMR)

The most important thing to help prevent the spread of measles is to ensure that everyone is vaccinated. It is important to have the MMR vaccine and we have been asked to encourage parents to take up the offer of an MMR vaccine if their children are not fully vaccinated.

Parents can ask for the free vaccine from their GP if they or their children aren't up to date.

Please see the attached leaflet for more information.

Message from Dame Rachel De Souza- Children's Commissioner for England

Thank you so much for sharing 'The Big Ambition' survey with the children and parents at Beighton Nursery Infant School.

We have had an amazing response from nursery, primary and secondary schools across England and as a result I've decided **to extend the closing date to Friday 19th January 2024** to allow even more children the chance to have their say.

This will give schools, children and young people an extra month over the festive season to take part in 'The Big Ambition'.

Children and parents can complete the survey here:
www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

'The Big Ambition' provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election.

Let's make sure that the children and young people of Sheffield are represented in the results.

Thank you again and Merry Christmas!

Very best,

Dame Rachel De Souza
Children's Commissioner for England

MEASLES

Don't let your child catch it

– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible*
- if you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.

immunisation
the safest way to protect your child

Some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine are listed on the back of this leaflet

Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to
www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/

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