



January 2017 Newsletter

27.01.2017

A belated happy new year to you all! We all wish you peace and happiness in 2017. We are back in the full swing of things and looking forward to a productive term in partnership with all of you.

Winter Weather

Please make sure your children come to school with a change of shoes & warm outdoor gear like hats & gloves. They do like to play in the snow, but we can only take children out who are appropriately dressed.

A change of shoes is really important so that they are warm all day, & so that our school floors don't get too slippery.

Please listen to the local radio stations (Metro, Galaxy & Durham FM) on a snowy morning in case we have to close – this would only be in the most extreme circumstances, as we do like to stay open. Our school website will also immediately be updated if we close the school.

Parents of Year 6 children

This is obviously a very important term for your children when they are working hard to prepare for their SAT tests in May – week beginning 8th May. Please ensure they attend school regularly, get plenty of rest/sleep and have a quiet place at home to do their homework and revision.

The BBC 'Revisewise' website is a fun, interactive site to go on to with your child if you have a computer at home, to help them to revise.

Please do not put too much pressure on your child, just encourage them to work hard and do their homework.

School Website

Please be aware that all of the important school dates so far are on our website, including **next year's holidays**.

<http://www.st-godrics.durham.sch.uk/>

Year 6 Retreat

Miss Horner & I would like to congratulate all of our Year 6 children on their wonderful behaviour & manners when we went overnight on retreat in January. They were a pleasure to take away.

Parents' Evening

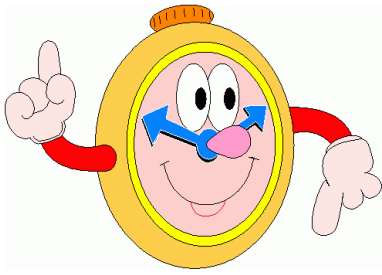
So that we can, once again, give every parent a chance to talk about their child's progress, we will be holding parents' evening on Tuesday 7th March between 3.15pm & 5.30pm.

If there is something you need to talk to the teacher about that would take longer than the 5 minutes allotted, then please try to arrange a meeting on an alternative day.

Please contact school to arrange an appointment.

Children arriving late to school

We have been noticing a significant number of children arriving after



the start of the school day recently. School starts at 8.55am & we expect all children to be at school on time to line up with their friends at the beginning of the school day. It should only be exceptional circumstances when they are not able to do this. We will be monitoring this and may need to take further action if it persists

Friends of the School

We are wanting to recruit lots of volunteers to help to run our 'Friends of the School' group. This is set up to raise funds for our lovely school – we have done this by organising school discos, summer & Christmas fairs & other activities. You will be aware from national news recently that school budgets are becoming really tight, & we would be delighted if we could recruit new volunteers to help us with ideas about how to raise funds, and to support us in organising this. If you are interested, please come to a meeting on **Thursday 2nd February at 9am in school!** Thank you.

Volunteers

Our school staff are all tightly timetabled to give pupils very focussed support in their lessons. We are, therefore, looking for volunteers to support our classes by hearing children read & other support. If you have any particular skills you would like to share with us, we would love to hear from you too. So, if you or grandparents etc. have any spare time, please contact school. ***You will need to complete a current DBS form - criminal record check so that we continue to safeguard our children.***

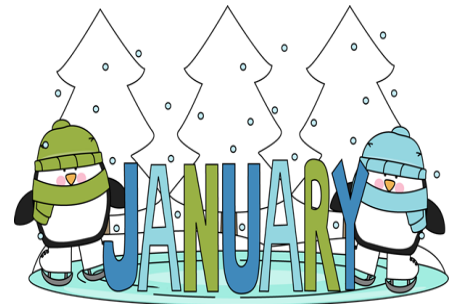
Support from St. Bede's Comprehensive, Peterlee

We are enjoying lots of support from St Bede's currently. Miss Duggan teaches our children Spanish every other week which they thoroughly enjoy.

Class 4 have been having PE lessons from St. Bede's head of PE, including yoga!

Class 5 are being taught the arts subjects by St. Bede's staff this half term as part of a project.

We are lucky to have such a lovely secondary school supporting our children.



Dates for the Diary

- 2nd February – relaunch of Friends of the school – meeting at 9am – ALL WELCOME
- 14th February - 3pm – Valentine's Disco organised by the Friends of the School
- 17th February - Break up for HALF TERM HOLIDAY!
- 28th February - Sponsored pancake flip – details to follow
- 1st March - Whole school at church for Ash Wednesday service
- 2nd March - World Book Day – details to follow
- 7th March - Parents' night
- 10th March - CAFOD Family Fast Day – children pay £1 to come to school in non uniform
- 22nd March - 2.45pm - 3.30pm - parent taster session of school dinners – details to follow
- 4th April - 9am – Class 1 Easter Stay & Play – parents with their children
- 7th April - Break up for EASTER HOLIDAY
- Monday 24th April - Back to school**



This newsletter is available in large print format, please contact school if this is required.