

BYERS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 22.09.23



Dear Parents/Carers,

The term is very nicely underway and we have seen some excellent work being produced in every classroom.

Pupil Voice

We carry out regular Pupil Voice lessons, where the children can discuss topics and issues happening in school. Four Year 6 children have been voted in as Class Representatives. The Reps. go to each class to gain ideas and feedback from all children which they then discuss further with Miss Dodds and Mrs King. Our first session went really well and the children reflected on our rewards system, where some excellent ideas were put forward.

House Points

In school, we have divided the children up into houses. We have picked tree names for each house to link to our school logo but also our new Forest School vision. The house names are as follows: Oak, Ash, Fir and Elm. Your child will now know which house they belong to. The children can earn house points for lots of reasons such as: excellent work, being kind to others and helping out around school. The house points gained by all children will be added together across the week and the winning house revealed in Friday's Praise Assembly. As agreed from the Pupil Voice session, at the end of each full term, the winning house will visit our new Prize Cafe for a special treat.

Attendance

Attendance is vitally important. If your child is really unwell, please call the office as soon as possible to alert us to the fact your child will be absent. Our latest Pupil Voice session discussed a way of rewarding attendance. We will continue to announce our attendance figures every Friday in Praise Assembly and award a trophy to the class with the highest attendance. We will monitor the weekly winners and in July, the class with the best attendance across the academic year will win a party! We have also set an extra incentive that if any class achieves 100% attendance in a week, they will get an extra playtime on Friday!

European Day of Languages

On Tuesday 26th September, we will be celebrating European Day of Languages in classes. Class 1 will be learning French, Class 2 Italian, Class 3 Latin and Class 4 will be learning Dutch! I am sure the children will have a fantastic day!

Support Plans for children with Special Educational Needs.

For all children on our SEN register, staff have been working in collaboration to write new plans for the term ahead. Class teachers will be contacting you ASAP to arrange a meeting/ telephone discussion around your child's targets.

PE Days

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Class 2	Class 1	Class 1	Please note, any children taking part in Tag Rugby need to bring kit to change into.	Class 1
Class 3	Class 2			Class 2
Please note Class 4 should wear school uniform to go swimming.	Class 3			Class 3
	Class 4			Class 4

School Photos

On Thursday 5th October, Phototronics will be in school. Family groups with preschool children are welcome to arrive from 8:30am. All other photos and sibling group photos will be taken in school time.

Apply for a school place

If your child turns 5 between 01.09.24 and 31.08.25, the window to apply for a school place is now open. Visit www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. Applications open 5th September and close on 15th January 2024. We will be holding an open morning on Saturday 23rd September from 10am- 12 for perspective children and parents.

Harvest Festival

This year, we have decided to change our Harvest Assembly and replace it with something different. We would like to invite parents into school for a harvest/autumn-themed craft afternoon. This will be held on Friday 6th October from 1:30pm. You will be welcomed into classrooms to take part in a collaborative craft session with your child. If you have more than one child in school, you are welcome to go between classes or bring an additional adult. Since this is the first event like this, we will need to limit numbers to one adult per child to assess uptake. More information will be provided closer to the event.

Foodbank @ St.Pauls Centre

As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations, we like to collect donations to help our local foodbank. The foodbank is always grateful of our support and it is lovely for the children to see how we can work together to support others. A link to a suggested list of items is as follows: [Donate food | County Durham Foodbank](#). Please could donations be brought into school week commencing 2nd October and left in the school entrance.

Diary Dates

Please see below a list of dates for your diary. The highlighted row is a new date:

Date	Event
Week beginning: 2 October – 6 October	Food bank donations
5 October	Individual School Photographs with Phototronics
6 October 1:30 – 3:00	Harvest Craft Afternoon
24.10.23	Hallowe'en Disco (Nikki Noo and Friends of School)
08.12.23	School Christmas Fair (Friends of School) Elfridges throughout the day
12.12.23 (pm) Exact times TBC	Class 1 and 2 Christmas Performance Class 3 and 4 Christmas Sing-Along
13.12.23 (am) Exact times TBC	Class 1 and 2 Christmas Performance Class 3 and 4 Christmas Sing-Along
14.12.24	Christmas jumper/cinema afternoon
14.02.24 15:15 – 17:00	Valentine Disco (Friends of School)
28.03.24	Easter Bingo
18.07.24	ByersFest - Outdoor disco

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please get in touch if I can help you in any way.

Kind regards,

G.E.Dodds

Headteacher