



## Parents' Evening

We are holding parents evening from 3:25 on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. If you cannot make it in person, you can request a phone call. If these times are not convenient, do not hesitate to get in touch and an alternative appointment can be made with the class teacher. If childcare is an issue, our wrap around care is available for £5 per hour or you can drop your child into the library while you attend your appointment. We really value working in collaboration with you to support your child in their education journey and really appreciate the opportunity to share an update of their progress.

## RSE update

From September 2026, new statutory guidance will come into effect for the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). Schools are required to consult with all stakeholders around this policy and the implementation of the content of the RSE curriculum. At Byers Green, we follow a scheme called SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship) by Coram Education. This scheme covers all of the DfE recommendations for the delivery of RSE and also incorporates the aspects of the PSHCE curriculum advised from the PSHCE association. At our Spring term Parents' Evening, I will make the new RSE policy, our work in PSHCE and some of the content of the units available for parents to look at. Feedback from parents and carers will be welcomed and shared with school staff when finalising the policy.

## School Uniform Update

The DfE has also made recommendations around the implementation of school uniform for September 2026. At Byers Green we were already implementing an approach where school branding was not compulsory. The guidance stipulates a cost effective and sustainable approach to uniform. I will also take this opportunity to tighten up our uniform approach as for lessons such as PE, staff are noticing more and more children not in uniform. We believe that uniform plays a valuable role in expressing the ethos of our school. A common uniform reflects the equality of all children in the school community. We wish to raise expectations in this and ask that you support us with this to maintain high standards in our school. We went to a sporting event recently and I noticed how smart many local schools looked with their children all wearing appropriate and matching PE kits.

### **School uniform is:**

Grey/black/navy trousers, skirt or dress

Navy blue polo shirt

Red jumper or cardigan.

### **PE Uniform:**

Navy jogging bottoms/leggings and jumper

White T-shirt

**NO JEWELLERY ON PE DAYS**

Small stud earrings are allowed on uniform days. Please note watches are allowed but not Smart Watches.

We will start a uniform swap shop every Sports Day and every Christmas Fair.

## Easter Craft Afternoon

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 1:30pm we would like to invite parents and carers into school for our annual Easter Egg competition. You will go to your child's class to work with them on a design for the competition. We ask that you bring along your own hard-boiled egg and if there is anything special you would like to make your creation! We will have glue, paints and various craft items in school that you are more than welcome to use. The finished eggs will go on display in the school hall and the winners will be announced on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

## School Photo Day

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, Phototronics are coming into school to take class photographs. Please can children come to school that day in full school uniform. Classes who have PE and Forest School can bring them to school and get changed for their lessons.

## Morning Arrangements

Starting from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, rather than a playtime between 8:45 and 8:55, we are going to send children straight into classes to have a calmer, soft start with class teachers. Adults can drop the children at the gate as normal and the children will walk round to their classroom doors and enter their classrooms. For Safeguarding reasons, I ask that no adults pass the member of staff at the school gate. If you have a message and wish to speak to a class teacher, please can you enter the school via the main reception and report to Mrs Blenkiron. You can pass messages or updates via the member of staff on the gate. We need to be aware of adults in the building at all times. We operate an open door policy, but please understand that often, staff are setting up for the day ahead, or dealing with children so cannot always be available. If you wish to speak to staff, they will phone or meet with you as soon as they can.

## Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy for two Parent Governors on our Governing Board.

Our Governing Board has a membership of 12, with representatives from the staff, local community and parents.

The Governing Board does not get involved in the day to day running of the school; they have a strategic role with responsibility for overseeing leadership and management. It has 3 core functions:

- setting strategic direction
- creating robust accountability
- ensuring best use of financial resources

The full Governing Board must meet at least three times per academic year, and also have frequent Committee meetings each term. There is an expectation that governors will also undertake monitoring visits into school to find out more about the school throughout the year. Individual governors do not have any powers, instead the Governing Board works closely with the Headteacher and makes decisions collectively as a team.

Any parent, or carer, of a registered pupil at the school at the time of election is eligible to stand for election as a Parent Governor (subject to certain exceptions, e.g. anyone employed at the school for more than 500 hours per annum is not eligible). Parent Governors are elected by other parents at the school - if there are more applications than spaces available, an election will be arranged so please be aware you may have to produce a personal statement for ballot papers.

Appointment is also subject to eligibility criteria and completion of a satisfactory Disclosure & Barring Service check.

All governors must abide by our agreed Code of Conduct covering issues such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest, training requirements.

Prospective candidates are invited to speak with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors prior to submitting an application so they are fully aware of the roles and responsibilities involved – please contact the school office to make an appointment.

Closing date for expressions of interest is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

## Wrap Around Care Offer

Monday – General fun including pool

Tuesday – General fun

Wednesday – Arts and crafts (3:25 – 4:25)

Thursday – Musical Theatre (3:25 – 4:25)

Friday – Football with Nathan (3:25 – 4:25)

### PE days until end of term

Please note this is until we break up on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. I will inform you of the PE days for after the Easter holidays nearer the time.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Class 2	Class 4	Class 3		Class 1 Class 2
Swimming – Class 3 at Spennymoor Leisure Centre				Class 4 Forest School

### Diary Dates

Please see important dates coming up this term

Date/time	Event
23.03.26	Bikeability Training for Class 4
23.03.26	Parents' Evening
24.03.26	Parents' Evening
27.03.26	Class Photograph day
31.03.26	Whole School Skipping Day
01.04.26	Easter Craft afternoon for Parents and Carers 1:30 – 3:25 am
02.04.26	School closes for Easter

**More dates will be updated in this table as other opportunities arise – please keep checking.**

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

Kind regards,

*G.E.Dodds*

Headteacher