

Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School

Dean Bank, Ferryhill,
Co. Durham DL17 8PP
Telephone: 01740 651 512
Fax: 01740 654 835

E-mail: deanbank@durhamlearning.net
Website: www.deanbank.durham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs P Northcott
Chair of Governors: Mr J Lindsay



Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

Dear Parent/Carers

Newsletter 21 ~ 23rd March 2018

End of Spring Term 2018

School will finish at 3:15pm on Wednesday 28th March 2018 and reopen on Monday 16th April 2018 at 8:55am.

Attendance Registration Certificates

All children should leave school on Tuesday 27th March 2018 with a copy of their attendance registration certificate. If you do not receive one please contact Mrs Gilyeat in the school office.

Easter Service

We will be holding an Easter Service at Saint Luke's Church on Wednesday 28th March 2018 at 2:00pm and would like to invite parents/carers etc. The children whose parents/carers attend WILL be able to leave straight after the service, all other children will be taken back to school and leave as normal at 3:15pm.

Free School Meal Entitlement

The regulations for Free School Meals are changing on the 1st April 2018. If you claim any of the following benefits you may be eligible to claim a Free School Meal:

- Universal credit with an earnings threshold that does not exceed £7,400.
- Income support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HMRC that does not exceed £16,190.
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit.
- Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.)
- Support under part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Application Forms can be obtained from the school office. All applications are dealt with in strict confidence. Though some children prefer to bring in a 'packed lunch', it is important that all those entitled to a free school meal are registered.

Please note: It is YOUR responsibility to inform school if there are changes to your claim.

Dene Hurst Nursing Home

Dene Hurst Nursing Home extends a warm invitation to all adults and children in the Ferryhill area to take part in their Easter Bonnet competition. This event will be held on Saturday 24th March 2018 at 2:00pm.

If anyone could help make an additional bonnet for a resident who has no family, this would be greatly appreciated.

Please come along and join us in a Karaoke sing along, our residents love a sing song! Raffle tickets will be on sale at 50p per strip with an array of prizes. There will also be Hot Dogs, tea/coffee and juice for sale.

Multi-Sport Easter Camps

Sedgefield School Sports Partnership are offering a selection of 2 day Easter camps for £20.00 or individual days for £12.00. The camps will be open to children in Years 2-6 and will be as follows:

Tuesday 3rd AND Wednesday 4th April 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm at Kirk Merrington Primary School.

Thursday 5th and Friday 6th April 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm at St Michaels C of E Primary School.

Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th April 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm at Timothy Hackworth Primary School.

Bookings can be made at www.sedgefieldssp.org.uk/holiday-camps/ for more information please contact Gareth Hamblin on 01388 722317 or garethhamblin@sedgefieldssp.org.uk

Attendance Figures

Can I remind parents that attendance was highlighted as an issue during the OFSTED inspection and is something which is a priority in school this year. **Children's expected attendance is 96%**. Please ensure all appointments are made out of school hours (where possible) and that you contact the school office on the first day of absence to notify us of the reasons for absences, and the expected date of return. Where medical absences persist beyond 1 day of illness, please keep in regular contact (ideally daily) with the school.

12th March 2018 ~ 16th March 2018

Little Learners	Busy Bees	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
96.77	88.55	91.29	93.32	95.10	93.25	96.62	96.11	90.65

19th March 2018 ~ 23rd March 2018

Little Learners	Busy Bees	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
88.89	90.14	93.65	94.64	95.34	96.00	99.29	96.00	90.00

Mobile Phones

Pupils should not be bringing mobile phones into school, if you wish for your child to have their mobile in school then please call into the school office to sign the relevant form. Children with permission to bring them into school will be expected to hand them into the school office on a morning and collect them at home time. Any child found to have a mobile in school without permission will be expected to hand their phone into the school office and a parent MUST come into school to collect it.

Friends of Dean Bank – Donations Needed

The Friends of Dean Bank will be holding a Grand Easter Egg Raffle on Monday 26th March 2018 and would like to ask for donations towards this event. Thank you to those who have already donated.

The Friends meet every Monday at 9.30am and everyone is welcome to join for coffee and biscuits. This meeting is to discuss fund raising events and how parents and carers can support the school. We have an established committee but would appreciate parents who may just be able to help with specific events or just wish to hear some of the ideas and events already planned.

The friends are continuing to hold a weekly stall every Friday at the bottom of the yard and they continue to want donations for this.

SAFC Family Learning Course

Foundation of Light's Family Learning course welcomes any family member over the age of 19 years.

The course will be running for two hours each Monday in school, 1:00pm – 3:00pm – one hour learning with other adults and one hour playing fun games with your children – over 10 weeks starting Monday 23rd April 2018.

Meet and learn with other parents, gain skills and knowledge that can improve your life, help your child get the most out of school. If you are interested please call into the school office to complete a form. For more information contact one of the team on 0191 5692766 / 01388 317006 or email josh.scott@foundationoflight.co.uk.

KS1 and KS2 SAT's

The Year 6 children (Miss Potts' Class) will be completing their KS2 SAT's week beginning 14th May 2018. Full attendance is needed that week so please ensure no holidays or appointments are booked during this time. The Year 2 children (Miss Heseltine's class) will be completing their KS1 SAT's during the month of May 2018. Again we would be very grateful if you could avoid booking holidays or appointments during this time.

School Uniform

We have several children who are not coming to school in uniform. Can I just remind parents that I am very flexible with where parents buy uniform from and do not expect parents to pay for school jumpers with logo etc. but I do expect all parents to provide pupils with uniforms which adhere to our policy.

Pupils must have

- grey or black trousers or skirts / red or blue summer dresses
- a red polo shirt
- a navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- all black shoes or black trainers

If children are not adhering to this then parents will get be contacted by text and bring replacements items.

EYFS Contributions

We would like to remind parents that the Early Years team would like a contribution of £1.00 per week per child to help to buy consumables e.g. flour and oil for playdough.

Emergency Contact Details

It is **very important** that school has up to date contact numbers and addresses in case of an emergency. We have had several incidents where children have been ill or we have had concerns which have need to be acted upon and we have not been able to contact anyone.

Dates for your diary



April 2018	
Tuesday 17 th April 2018	School Nurse Drop-in
Wednesday 18 th April 2018	SAFC Family Learning Assembly
Tuesday 24 th April 2018	Hoopstarz Day
Thursday 26 th April 2018	FBEC Blazer Fittings
May 2018	
Throughout the Month	KS1 SAT's
Thursday 3 rd May 2018	Year 5 and 6 NSPCC Workshops
Monday 7 th May 2018	School Closed for May Day
Tuesday 8 th May 2018	School Nurse Drop-in
Wednesday 9 th May 2018	Class 3 Assembly
14 th May 2018 – 18 th May 2018	KS2 SAT's week
Monday 21 st May 2018	Year 6 visit to Northumbria University
Friday 25 th May 2018	Year 5 and 6 Athletics at Shildon Athletics Club
Friday 25 th May 2018	School Closes at 3:15pm for Half Term
June 2018	
Monday 4 th June 2018	School re-opens at 8:55am.

Durham County Council's Community Action Team (CAT)

The Community Action Team (CAT) is a dedicated, multi-disciplined task force who will proactively deal with local housing and environmental issues in order to tackle degraded environments and improve the health and well-being of residents. The team will visit Dean Bank on 9th April 2018 – 24 June 2018 and will be holding a resident engagement session at the Literary Institute on Tuesday 17th April 2018 at 3.00pm until 6.00pm.

CAT is led by Environment, Health, and Consumer Protection with representation from Housing and Planning & Development colleagues who will work alongside Neighbourhood Wardens, Police and Community Support Officers and Fire and Rescue teams, amongst other partner agencies. As well as delivering intelligence-led enforcement, the team will have a key role in promoting health and healthier lifestyles.

Whilst the core CAT team remains established throughout the programme, other service areas may join the CAT in the delivery of certain initiatives in line with particular priorities that have been identified.

For this programme the project length has been extended to deliver an 11 week rolling programme moving round the County. Within each area the team will focus on a specific community. Each project will consist of 2 weeks engagement/priority setting, 7 weeks of action and 2 weeks of review. Four initiatives will be carried out per year.

The programme will link, whenever possible, with other programmes of action, for example those co-ordinated through the Neighbourhood Intervention team and Operation Spruce-Up.

Whilst the CAT will move on from area to area, any outstanding issues will be dealt with by the residual services operating in the area and will be managed as part of the exit strategy agreed with partners.

This dedicated team will work proactively across the County and enable resources to be targeted at specific areas. The CAT has been staffed from within the existing service establishment and will use enforcement powers to make owners/occupiers/landlords responsible for their neighbourhood and their properties. The joint working arrangements will improve community engagement, identify and meet local priorities and promote effective use of resources.

The CAT will deal with a range of issues including Housing Standards, Housing Management, Empty properties, Accumulations, Ruinous buildings and Land, Noise, Under-age sales of alcohol/cigarettes, Energy Efficiency, Consumer rights and Cold Callers.

In each community, the key issues will be different; therefore, the CAT will need to prioritise their resources accordingly. During the engagement period the CAT will liaise with the local Police partner groups, PACT group, AAP and other partnership organisations including community groups. It is proposed that 3-4 priorities will be chosen by partners at the start of the CAT initiative, following input from residents and community groups. The CAT will then focus on these during their 7 weeks of action.

The 2018-19 programme starts on 9 April 2018. Four initiatives will take place each year. Review time has been built into the programme to allow each initiative to be reviewed within a year of taking place.

The location criteria prioritises areas of greatest need within the County. A dataset comprising of data on deprivation, health deprivation, empty homes, median house price and % private rented in receipt of housing benefit has been used to identify areas of the County potentially suitable for a CAT project. This data has been scrutinised and combined with EHCP public health complaint data to establish the project locations.

Potential locations have been excluded where the CAT has visited in the past year, there is less than 10% private rented in receipt of housing benefit, and where Public Health team data/intelligence show that the area is not environmentally degraded.

For this project we have included two areas that are currently selective licensing areas, as these have consistently scored highly on our location criteria.

Within each community a focus area of 400-600 properties will be chosen prior to the start of the project.

The CAT programme has been running since 2013, following a successful pilot programme in 2012. The programmes are designed to ensure that the CAT team target areas, which are visually degraded, whilst ensuring that all areas of the County are visited.

The team works using an adaptable project model, which includes a strong element of community input. Throughout the 5 years the CAT team has been operating, officers have continued to trial different ways of working and tailor each project to tackle local priorities.

The CAT team carry out regular reviews of programme areas and obtain resident and landlord feedback to ensure that the programme is continually developed.