

Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School

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



Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

Dear Parent/Carers

Newsletter 4 ~ 11th October 2018

Half Term Holiday

School closes on Thursday 18th October 2018 at 3:15pm and re-opens on Monday 29th October 2018 at 8:55am.

Easy Fundraiser

As Christmas is fast approaching we would like to take this opportunity to remind you about Easy Fundraising.

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for school? There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/deanbankprimary/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and school will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support.

Friends of Dean Bank

The Friends of Dean Bank meet every **Tuesday at 9:15am** 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 FODB Macmillan Coffee Morning raised £93.00.

Upcoming events

Halloween Disco - Wednesday 31st October 2018, 4:00pm-5:00pm, children will go home at 3:15pm and return to school using the main entrance with payment on the door.

Christmas Fair - Monday 10th December 2018, more information will be available closer to the time.

Flu Vaccinations

The children of Reception to Year 5 are due to have their Flu Vaccinations on Monday 29th October 2018. The deadline for completion of the forms via the website below is Friday 19th October 2018. Please ensure you complete this form to allow your child to have the vaccine, if you have already completed the form this does not need to be done again.

www.hdft.nhs.uk/nasalflu-consent

School code: 78350

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor, if you feel you would be interested in this position please contact Mrs. Emmerson for more information.

Tempest Photography

If you would like to place an order for your child's class photograph please ensure your order is handed into the school office no later than Tuesday 16th October 2018.

Inspired Through Sport Athlete

Unfortunately our initially arranged date for an athlete to visit school had to be cancelled but we have a new date in the diary to ensure the children do not miss out. The newly arranged date for this event is Thursday 8th November 2018.

All children will receive a new sponsorship form (we still have the previously returned forms in our safe). These forms should be completed and returned to school along with the money raised (which should be in a sealed envelope) by Thursday 8th November 2018.

The funds raised will not only support our GB sporting stars, but school will also receive 40% of the money to enable us to purchase new PE equipment. Although there is no minimum amount to be raised school will not receive anything until after we have reached £250.00 (administration costs).

As a school we will provide Inspired through Sport with a list of how much each pupil has raised to enable them to provide prizes for anyone who has participated.

A little reminder of the details of the event:

The day will start with an inspiring assembly led by an athlete where they will share their sporting journey with our pupils, allowing them to understand the hard work and dedication needed in order to achieve success. Afterwards, each year group will complete a challenging fitness circuit with the athlete and have the opportunity for a meet & greet. During this time, they will also learn about healthy living and the importance of developing a growth mind-set. During this event there will be a fully DBS checked photographer in school who will take a photo of each child/family with the athlete.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Ferryhill Methodist Church are once again running the Christmas shoebox appeal in aid of 'Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.' If you wish to make your own shoebox package you can collect a leaflet from the school office which explains the process in greater detail.

If you wish to donate any items from the following list please hand them into the school office by Friday 9th November 2018.

Gift Suggestions:

- Toys (doll, cuddly toy, toy truck, skipping rope, yo-yo, ball, small puzzle, musical instrument etc.)
- School Supplies (pens, colouring pencils, sharpener & eraser, crayons, felt pens, stamp & ink pads sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, colouring & picture books, solar calculators etc.)
- Hygiene items (toothbrush & toothpaste, bar of soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel)
- Other Items (hat, cap, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, wind up torch, jewellery set, sweets – must have best before date of at least March 2019.)

Ferryhill Methodist Church will be open on Monday 12th November 2018 and Wednesday 14th November 2018 to receive filled shoe boxes, goods to fill boxes and donations of money to help with transport costs.

If you require further information please contact Mrs Wilson on 01388 720571.

A dedication service will take place on Sunday 18th November 2018 at 6:00pm. The boxes will be blessed and sent on their way to needy and unfortunate children in Eastern European countries.



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 absences persist beyond 1 day, please keep in regular contact (ideally daily) with the school.

Please note: ALL parents will be expected to complete a Leave of Absence form for **ALL** appointments made during the school day.

Although we have seen some improvement in attendance we are still working on improving this further. If you have any concerns regarding attendance please contact Mrs Gilyeat, School Attendance Officer.

So far this term 76% of our children have at least 96% attendance, although this figure is high and we cannot avoid illness our aim as a school is to have 100% of our children with at least 96% attendance. Every child's attendance is monitored on a weekly basis allowing us to monitor their absences and to arrange to meet with parents if we have any concerns regarding this matter.

28th September 2018 ~ 4th October 2018

Little Learners	Busy Bees	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
83.33	94.55	92.50	95.00	97.27	95.65	94.78	89.50	97.60

5th October 2018 ~ 11th October 2018

Little Learners	Busy Bees	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
86.67	94.55	96.25	98.21	96.82	96.09	99.13	90.20	95.20

As part of our school Behaviour Policy we award DOJO points depending on each individual child's behaviour and attitude within school. This term we brought in the incentive of a DOJO store where the children can spend their DOJO's on a fortnightly basis.

After thought and discussion it has been decided that we will be awarding green dojos each week to those pupils with 100%.

At the end of each half term all of our children with at least 98% attendance are entered into a draw for the chance to win £5.00, along with this initiative we will also be entering each family that have at least 98% attendance into a draw for the chance to win a £30.00 ASDA voucher.

Pupil Premium Plus Grant

Has a child in your care attending our school

- been adopted from care in England or Wales?
- left care under a special guardianship order (SGO)
- left care under a child arrangements order (formally known as a residence order)
- been adopted from 'state care' outside England and Wales

If the answer is yes to any of the above please contact Mrs Temple as school will receive additional funding for these children.

PSA Coffee Morning

Mrs Temple and Mrs Gilyeat will be holding a coffee morning every Monday, this is an informal drop-in where you can discuss any issues you have regarding SEND, Attendance or just want a general chat about school life. If Mrs Temple is unavailable another member of staff will be available.

Anne-Marie Robertshaw, school nurse, will be attending the coffee morning on the first Monday of every Month beginning Monday 5th November 2018 if you have any concerns regarding toilet training, head lice etc.

OPAL

We would like to ask for the following donations to assist with our OPAL project:

- Old Blankets
- Pots and Pans
- Large kitchen utensils (spatula/spoons etc.)
- Old Waterproof Toys (dinosaurs etc.)
- Old dress up clothes
- Old wellies which are too small for your child to be used as spares in school

School 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
- black leather or leather look shoes

If children are not adhering to this then parents will get be contacted by text to bring replacements items or children will be expected to put on their PE plimsolls if footwear is not appropriate.

Please note: children MUST also have appropriate haircuts/styles, this does not include the latest trend of shapes and stars.

Admission to School:

Parents can make their application for Secondary School online by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the School Admissions online application facility will be available to parents from Wednesday 12 September 2018. The closing date for Secondary School Applications is **Wednesday 31 October 2018**.

If parents do not wish to apply online they can complete a paper application form, and these are available to print from our website (same website address as above). Alternatively these application forms can be requested by e-mail to schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk or by telephone from the School Admissions and Transport Team on 03000 265896. Copies of the Parent's guide "Primary and Secondary School Admission Guide 2019/2020" will also be available from our website or on request from Wednesday 12 September 2018.

Free School Meal Entitlement

The regulations for Free School Meals changed 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.**

First Contact

If you have a concern about a child or young person who lives in County Durham, First Contact is the service to call. First Contact brings together staff from Children and Young People's Services with partners such as Durham Constabulary and Health.

How can I get in touch? First Contact has made it easy for you to get in touch with them. You can contact them using any of the following methods:

Telephone: 03000 26 79 79

E-mail: scd@durham.gov.uk

Website: www.durham.gov.uk/.../firstcontact

What happens if I call First Contact? When you contact First Contact, you will speak to a trained officer who will work with you to decide the level of response needed. Providing early help to children, young people and their families is their priority.

An Early Help Assessment will be started to help inform the next steps, which may be:

- A referral to preventative services such as One Point, with a 'team around the family' and a named lead professional. Giving you appropriate advice and guidance.
- A statutory referral to assessment and interventions teams due to safeguarding concerns, with a 'team around the family' and a named lead professional.

First Contact works to a Single Assessment Framework which can be found on the Durham County Council website.

Councils work around poverty

As part of the Council's work around poverty, they will be making free healthy snacks available in our Leisure Centre's throughout October half-term.

76,800 healthy snacks were distributed in Leisure Centre's and Libraries over the Summer holidays to positive reception. Comments included:

- Please carry on doing this! It's an excellent initiative. It encourages dialogue between kids and parents on healthy eating. Thank you.
- Fruit over the summer is a great idea. Encourages children to choose healthy snacks and also gives opportunity for those who aren't as privileged, to enjoy a treat. J
- Excellent idea- this should be done in a lot more places-eating fruit should become normal for all children from an early age- keep it up!!
- Thank you so much for the food. This helps people to get free food – Lucy
- This is a very good idea. It's very kind to do this, when you're hungry you can come over and get something to eat. It's good for children. It's a great idea. Very kind - Lucy
- I think it's very nice to have fruit here so we don't get hungry! ☺ - Besidone
- It's a great idea and a nice snack – Sydney-Ann

Can You Volunteer?

Volunteers are wanted to help with the local Community Speedwatch.

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is an initiative where members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Speeding vehicles are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds.

The training takes about an hour and volunteers can go out 2 at a time for approximately 1 hour. Anyone interested can pick up a form from FerryDec shop in the village.

Endeavour Woodcrafts

Endeavour Woodcrafts are holding a Christmas Open Day on Saturday 10th November 2018 from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

If you have any unused gifts/toiletries or bottles you are happy to donate, please drop them off at Endeavour, The Old Fire Station, Darlington Road Ferryhill between 9.00am and 3.00pm, Monday to Friday.

October 2018	
Tuesday 16 th October 2018	Tag Rugby Competition
Wednesday 17 th October 2018	Harvest Festival at Ferryhill Methodist Church
Thursday 18 th October 2018	Parental Consultation Evening
Thursday 18 th October 2018	School closes for Autumn Half Term
Monday 29 th October 2018	School re-opens
Monday 29 th October 2018	Reception to Year 5 Flu Immunisation
Wednesday 31 st October 2018	FODB Halloween Disco
November 2018	
Thursday 1 st November 2018	Football League
Wednesday 7 th November 2018	Individual / Family Photographs
Thursday 8 th November 2018	Netball League
12 th November 2018 – 16 th November 2018	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 13 th November 2018	Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics
Monday 26 th November 2018	Bags to School
December 2018	
Tuesday 4 th December 2018	Gymnastics Festival – Class TBC
Tuesday 4 th December 2018	Year 2 Christmas Journey
Wednesday 5 th December 2018	Whole School Visit to the Gala Theatre
Monday 10 th December 2018	FODB Christmas Fair
10 th December 2018 – 14 th December 2018	Assessment Week
Wednesday 12 th December 2018	School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	Christmas Party Day
Friday 21 st December 2018	Christmas Carol Service – Saint Luke's Church
Friday 21 st December 2018	School closes for Christmas Holidays
January 2019	
Tuesday 8 th January 2019	School re-opens for the Spring Term
Wednesday 9 th January 2019	Year 1 Multi Skills
Thursday 24 th January 2019	Year 5/6 Basketball