



Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School



Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

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Head Teacher: Mrs P Northcott
Deputy Head Teacher Miss K Potts
Chair of Governors: Mr J Davison

Dear Parents and Carers

Staffing Update

Miss Potts has now officially started her maternity leave and we would like to wish her the best of luck. Mr Haynes will be acting Deputy Head until her return.

End of Term

School Closes on Thursday 22nd October 2020 and re-opens on Monday 2nd November 2020.

National Attendance Figures

We recently received that attendance figure for County Durham and National attendance (up to and including 8th October 2020) which was 89.4%, OUR school figure was **93.42%**. Well done everyone.

School attendance is continuously monitored throughout the year. The data below is for the period 2nd September 2020-22nd October 2020:

66% of our pupils had a percentage of 96% or above
16% of pupils had between 90% and 95%
18% of pupils were under 90%

Each week the class with the best attendance receives £10 which can be spent on something fun for the children of that class. The children and teacher can decide when they would like to use the funds and what to spend them on. So far this term: Class 1 have £10, Class 2 have £20, Class 3 have £20, Class 5 have £10 and Class 6 have £20.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be available from the school office from Monday 2nd November 2020 for a donation of at least 20p per poppy.

Tempest Photographer

The Tempest photographer is due to be in school on Friday 6th November 2020. Unfortunately due to COVID restriction we will only be able to take individual photographs this year.

Flu Immunisations

Letters will be sent out on Monday 2nd November 2020 for the flu immunisations which will take place on Monday 30th November 2020.

Non-Uniform Day

Today's non-uniform day raised £162.60. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

OPAL

Due to current restrictions school bubbles are on a rota for using the different OPAL areas in the playground. This means that 1 out of 3 weeks your child will be allocated to the mud kitchen and grassed area which means they may return home very dirty. We encourage the children to take part in different activities and have previously explained this to all parents. Although we understand parents are frustrated regarding having to wash school uniform on a daily basis due to this but we expect children to come into school each day with fresh uniform on in the current situation. We have received a grant for wellies which we have purchased and will use once the storage has arrived. As the Persil advert says. Play is dirty! Thanks for your understanding.

Children's expected attendance is 96%, our whole school attendance current stands at 93.75%. (2nd September 2020 to 22nd October 2020)

It is vitally important that **ALL** absences are reported to the school office on the first day of absence to notify us of the reasons for absences and the expected date of return, otherwise they may be recorded as unauthorised which could possibly lead to referrals to the Attendance Improvement Team or legal proceedings.

Absences can be reported by contacting the school office on 01740 651512 or emailing the school / Mrs Gilyeat at deanbank@durhamlearning.net or s.gilyeat201@deanbank.durham.sch.uk

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

Please ensure **ALL** appointments are made out of school hours (where possible). If your child is attending an appointment first thing on a morning please ensure to inform the school office to allow lunch arrangements to be in place upon their return. Evidence of appointments must be shown to the school office or emailed to Mrs Gilyeat to ensure our records are correct at all times.

Although we have seen an improvement in attendance we are still working on improving this further. Guidance for school attendance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>. If you have any concerns regarding attendance please contact Mrs Gilyeat.

Monday 5th October 2020 – Friday 9th October 2020 (Attendance)

Little Learners	Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
N/A	77.59	88.11	98.28	97.71	99.23	90.91	99.01	96.00

Monday 12th October 2020 – Friday 16th October 2020 (Attendance)

Little Learners	Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
N/A	83.87	92.07	100	96.30	99.23	91.82	97.14	96.75

Monday 19th October 2020 – Thursday 22nd October 2020 (Attendance)

Little Learners	Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
N/A	92.31	91.76	95.63	92.94	98.61	95.65	98.81	85.92

Although we monitor our attendance really closely we are also expected to report our Persistent Absence. If a child is absent for 10% of their school sessions e.g. their attendance is less than 90%, then they are classed as being persistently absent. The expectation is that our persistent absence is below the national of 10.8%, our rate is currently 19.43% (Wednesday 21st October 2020).

Monday 5th October 2020 – Friday 9th October 2020 (Persistent Absence)

Little Learners	Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
N/A	4	8	3	2	1	4	4	4

Monday 12th October 2020 – Friday 16th October 2020 (Persistent Absence)

Little Learners	Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
N/A	5	6	3	2	1	3	4	4

Monday 19th October 2020 – Wednesday 21st October 2020 (Persistent Absence)

Little Learners	Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
N/A	5	7	4	3	1	3	4	6