



Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School

Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

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Website: www.deanbank.durham.sch.uk

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

Dear Parents and Carers

Assistant Headteacher

The Governors are pleased to announce that Mr Haynes has been appointed as Assistant Headteacher from 1st January 2022

Christmas Club for Children entitled to FSM in Year 1 to Year 6 only Monday 20th – Thursday 23rd December 2021

The club will run from 8.45am to 12.45pm each day with breakfast, hot lunch and fun activities like: making Xmas decorations, team and fun games with professional coaches , watching a panto and more.

Please book on using the link: <https://forms.gle/CHsCgmBNm4usSD877>

There are only 60 places so you will need to book quickly to secure a place

School Christmas Lunch Monday 13th December 2021

Due to unforeseen circumstances Christmas lunch has been changed to Monday 13th December 2021.

Christmas Jumper Day - Wednesday 8th December 2021

Nursery and Little Learners only - Wednesday 15th December 2021

School will be **CLOSED** to all **NURSERY** and **LITTLE LEARNERS** on **Wednesday 15th December 2021** as the whole school are visiting The Gala Theatre.

Visit to The Gala Theatre

Wednesday 15th December 2021 - Reception to Year 6 children only

School secured funding from INEOS and so we are able to offer **FREE OF CHARGE** visit to watch the pantomime at The Gala Theatre. This has been arranged for the afternoon of Wednesday 15th December 2021 for Reception to Year 6 children. The children will leave school after an early lunch, with the coaches will collect the children after the performance at 4.00pm – it is expected that the children will arrive back at school at approximately 4:30 pm

A class dojo message will be sent to all parents once the return coach journey is underway to give a more accurate time.

Christmas Parties

Children can wear party clothes in school all day on the day of their party

Monday 13 th December 2021	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party
Tuesday 14 th December 2021	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party
Tuesday 14 th December 2021	EYFS Christmas Party
Thursday 16 th December 2021	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party

Vouchers for Vulnerable Families

The local authority has received Government funding through the Household Support Fund to support vulnerable households with food and fuel during the winter months.

A £60 voucher per child has been distributed to all families with Free School Meal entitlement to provide support with household bills. If you are entitled to FSM and have not received a voucher please contact school but please remember to check your junk mail.

Tea Time Club

Reminder – there will be no Tea Time Club during the last week of term

Places for Tea Time Club must be booked by the Wednesday of each week for the upcoming week so we can ensure there is enough staff available to run the club. Places can be booked by sending a message via Class Dojo to Mrs Watson or class teacher.

Please be aware:

- If your child is not pre-booked then unfortunately they will not be able to attend.
- Children cannot change their mind once booked, they will be expected to attend.

The club will run from the end of the school day until 4:15pm. Children should be picked up at the Breakfast Club entrance near the nursery at the end of the session. Please be aware that pick up time needs to be prompt as staff running the club finish work at 4:30pm. Thanks for your support in this manner.

Parent Governor

We currently have 2 vacancies for Parent Governor, if you would be interested or would like more information please contact Mrs. Northcott.

December 2021	
Friday 17 th December 2021	Christmas Carol Service on school yard 1.00pm
Friday 17 th December 2021	Break up for Christmas Holidays
January 2022	
Monday 10 th January 2022	Children return to school



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 sending a class dojo message or emailing the school deanbank@durhamlearning.net 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 school 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 please contact school.

Children's expected attendance is 96%, our whole school attendance current stands at 90.962%. (Friday 3rd December 2021)

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 36.75% (Thursday 21st October 2021).