



Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School



Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

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

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

Head Teacher: Mrs P Northcott
Acting Deputy Head Teacher Mr W Haynes
Chair of Governors: Mr J Davison

28.3.24

Dear Parents and Carers,

The clocks change this weekend, the mornings are getting lighter, and it's Spring, Yeah! It's been quite a short half term but we've crammed in a lot.

Several classes have been on educational visits and a variety of sporting events and we even came back from a rugby tournament with a shield. Brilliant coaching Mr Hegarty.

Year 3 were involved in a performance of Hamlet at Bishop Auckland Town Hall and a couple of children will be travelling down to Stratford Upon Avon to work with the Royal Shakespeare company.

Two children representing our community ambassadors attended an awards ceremony at Wynyard Hall where they collected an award for the work we are involved in with Approach Too. We are hoping to take some of them down to London to celebrate this and continue our work around British Values.

We have had several new families join us and we welcome them to our fantastic school, the children have been great and helped settle them in.

Coats

As you know we bought each child a school coat at Christmas and it is lovely to see them wearing them. It was particularly useful when we took 45 children to Beamish, wow did they stand out and look super. However, if your child no longer wants their coat can they return them so we can repurpose them for other children. If they want to keep their coat can you encourage them to wear them, especially on school visits as it does help them stand out.

School Lunches

Just a reminder that after the Easter holiday those children who are not entitled to Free School Meals will have to pay for them as the grant that I used for the last 2 years to subsidise everyone's lunches has finished. The cost of a school meal is £2.81 per day and must be paid on Arbor by 9:30am for the meal to be ordered. If this is not done then a packed lunch will have to be brought into school for lunch time.

I would encourage you to pay for lunches at the beginning of the week so Mrs Harrison has some rough idea about how many lunches to prepare. See below the information sent out regarding signing up to Arbor where meals should be paid for.



What we need you to do:

- Download the ARBOR app
- Enter your email address (please use the email address we hold on our system) to enable you to find our school
- Create a password by using the forgotten password link

Each parent / guardian will need individual logins therefore school will need an email address for anyone wishing to access this. You will only be able to update your own details via the app and not those of any other contacts linked with your child. Additional contacts (not parent / guardian) will need to be updated via the school office.

If you are having difficulty using Arbor, please contact Mrs Gilyeat, please do not contact Arbor directly.

Earrings and Jewellery

Can I just remind you that children are allowed to wear a watch that is not internet connected and stud earrings for school. Due to the dangers of hoops and dangling earrings these are not allowed in school.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be of concern however 76 children had attendance of 98% or above in the Spring Term, which is excellent. As a school we are put under a lot of pressure to ensure children come to school every day. Mr Murphy and Mrs Youll have been supporting children and parents in this area. We know childhood illness can be a nuisance but, in many cases, after some liquid paracetamol they are probably ok to come in. If they are really that ill, we'll send them home. Headlice can be treated in the morning and children are still allowed to come to school.



Inclusion Award

Mrs Crute is leading this award and is holding a parent's coffee morning on **Friday 26th April at 9:00am** where she will explain the award and share some of the resources and activities we will be doing.

Uniform

As we move into the summer term can I remind you that uniform is still important and that it is replaced, especially shoes as needed. We have lots of pre loved uniform if this will help, just speak to Mrs Gilyeat or Mrs Youll in the office and they will help you with this. School shoes are black, these include trainers without colour or logos. Thank you for your support in this as it is a great leveller for our children and ensures no one is discriminated against.

We have had a couple of accidents with drinks spilling in book bags and damaging them. Can you remind children that a book bag is called a book bag for a reason and to only keep books/papers /organisers in them. Thank you.

Enjoy the Easter break
Mrs Northcott

