

East Boldon Infant School

Newsletter

January 2018



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Dear Parents/Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to the new school term! I hope the Christmas holiday was a restful one! Although we finished very close to Christmas, it did allow more time for the children to play with toys and games at the other side, so I do hope everyone has had a wonderful time, but are now ready to get into the swing of routines for the Spring term!

Hopefully the After School Clubs will be just as popular as last term and children will be allocated their places and letters sent out soon. I would like to thank parents for their patience and understanding as we set up the new routines for the children at the beginning of the term. When paying for clubs please ensure all monies and slips are returned to school in an envelope, to allow the office staff to deal swiftly with payments—thank you!

If your child has milk in school, milk money is now due (unless you have already paid). It is £9.10 for the term, or £18.20 until the Summer. Cheques can be made payable to STMBC and again can all monies/cheques be placed in a labelled envelope with your child's name and class. Can all monies be sent into school by **Monday 15th January** please.

Can I once again just remind parents about collection arrangements for your child. It is important that your child knows who is collecting them and that any changes to collection are notified by a letter to the class teacher. Only in exceptional circumstances should a phone call to the office be made.

Can I also ask parents to make themselves clearly visible to the class teacher and your child at home time. The yard can get extremely busy and I would ask parents to move closer to your child's class teacher at collection time. The safeguarding of all children is our priority and children will not be released until a clear pathway and sight of the collecting adult can be seen.

We have also been in contact with the Local Authority's Parking Team, to support us with parking and safety around school. The team will be making visits around drop off and pick up times and I encourage all parents and carers who do drive to and from school to be mindful of the safety of everyone when parking. Our children will be working closely with the parking team later in the Spring term.

We have begun organising Parent Workshops and Parents' Evenings for this term and will inform parents of all dates in a separate letter to allow parents a time slot to sign up for very soon. Parents' attendance at these are very much appreciated. Workshops will allow parents to find out about the learning taking place this term in your child's year group and how specific teaching happens as well as how you can best support your child at home.

We are all excited to get the term started and to see lots more wonderful learning taking place! As always, your child's education is a partnership between home and school to achieve the best outcomes for our children and if we can help/support you in any way, please don't hesitate to speak to your class teacher or make an appointment with myself.

Many Thanks,
Miss Holt

A few Diary Dates coming up...

- Thursday 11th January—Year 2 swimming begins for the term (small groups C3/4 –parents will be notified)
- W/B Monday 22nd January—all After School Clubs begin for 8 weeks
- W/B Monday 22nd January—Parent Workshops in school (see separate box on Newsletter)
- Monday 5th February—Class 3 to Open Zone (animation)
- Wednesday 7th February—Class 4 to Open Zone (animation)

Friday 9th February—Break up for half term

Miss Holt loves a quote!

“A journey of a thousand miles, must begin with a single step”
Chinese Proverb



Chinese New Year 2018—Thursday 15th February –It's the Year of the Dog!
Keep a look out in school as our poppy displays become changed into lanterns, dragons and dogs!
We feel it is really important for the children to be aware of lots of different cultures/religions as well as our own British Values too. 'Kung Hey Fat Choy!'



Time to Talk Day—Thursday 1st February



In school we will be using this day just to TALK! We will arrange activities and circle times and encourage children about the power of speaking and listening to one another and sharing our thoughts in a empathetic and understanding way.

Safer Internet Day—Tuesday 6th February

Each year we recognise the importance of being safe citizens of computers and the internet on Safer Internet Day. This compliments our Computing curriculum and the work we do through Kidsafe. We will be sending some information to yourselves as well as posting key information on Twitter to keep everyone up to date!



Attendance and Punctuality

I was really happy to give out several 100% attendance certificates for the Autumn Term before our holidays. It is really important that our children are in school promptly and value the importance of coming to school every day!

We are incredibly lucky (and quite unique!) that we open our school doors from 8.45am. This allows the children to filter into school calmly and access challenges and play within the classroom. Our school doors close at 9.00am ready for lessons to begin promptly. It is incredibly important that children are punctual and in school ready to go by this time so no learning opportunities are missed!

Could parents also ensure that medical appointments (such as dentist appointments) where possible, are made outside of school hours to limit disruption to your child's day and to ensure they are in school and learning to the max!

Every school day counts and I will be continuing to monitor attendance and punctuality closely. If there is anything I can do to help parents/carers with attendance/punctuality, please do not hesitate to see me. Many Thanks.

Highlights....



All of the Christmas concerts were well attended by parents/carers at St George's Church this year and the children's performances were simply amazing!

Reception had a magical time at West Boldon Lodge's Winter Wonderland and all came back very excited and eager to tell us all about it!

The school lunches team provided us with a fabulous Christmas dinner this year—Thank you! It was lovely that some of the school Governors were able to attend this event too and spoke highly of the organisation and behaviour of the children during lunch!

Just before Christmas I met with the Principal of a school in Uganda. He took away all the shoes collected in school that will be directly used by children in his school that need them.



I have begun some links with the school, that will allow our children to find out more about a school in a different country. I will keep parents updated with any developments.

Year 2 enjoyed a fun filled afternoon of PE skills at Boldon School this week—a fantastic way to begin our New Year, keeping fit and active!

Spring Term Parents Workshops

Reception

Wednesday 24th January at 5pm

Year 1

Monday 22nd January at 5pm

Year 2

Tuesday 23rd January at 5pm

All sessions will take place in year groups or the school hall, further details sent out very soon.

Parent Teacher Association

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair in school. There was a fantastic, festive atmosphere in school and we managed to raise lots of money for our two schools! Great work!

Next Meeting 6.15 on 23rd January at the Grey Horse.

