



Lambourne Close, Bournmoor, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 6HF 0191 3854291  
e-mail: [bournmoor@durhamlearning.net](mailto:bournmoor@durhamlearning.net) web: [www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk](http://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk)

Our **Value of the Month** for November is **FRIENDSHIP** and for December is **KINDNESS**



## November and December 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your on-going support with your child's education and helping us to ensure the safety of everyone in our school community. We know that cases of Covid continue to impact on schools and we are always guided by our local authority on suitable steps to keep us safe and what we are required to do. However, we are mindful of offering as normal a school year as possible to all our pupils. With this in mind, this newsletter sets out what will be happening this half term. Please note that some changes will be made if needed to keep us all safe.

### **Anti-Bullying Week 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November**



The theme for this year is 'One Kind Word' where the Anti-Bullying Alliance aim to promote '*kindness fuelling kindness*'. We will be supporting this campaign on the week beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November with a range of activities focusing on the theme of bullying.

### **Shoe Box Appeal – collection between 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November**



We will be supporting the shoe box appeal this year and collecting boxes between the dates of 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November this year on behalf of Operation Christmas Child. More information on what can go in the boxes can be found at <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

### **Children in Need – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November**



School Council met with Miss Hartley and have been discussing Children in Need. As always we will be supporting this important cause and welcome your donations. We hope that all children dress up for the day on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November and the theme the School Council have chosen is wear your pyjamas (or leisure wear) to school! We are having a Pudsey lunch that day so if your child is on packed lunch you should have received a text inviting them to stay (pay on ParentPay please). If your child is on school lunches, they automatically get this meal choice on the day.

### **Christmas Post Box from 1<sup>st</sup> December**



Each year children can bring their Christmas cards to school for their friends and put them in our post box. This year our School Council will be sorting them out and delivering them to each class from 1<sup>st</sup> December. Please ensure that each envelope has the pupil's name on and which class they are in so our delivery team can get them to the children.

### **Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December**



On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December children can join in with Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day to try and raise funds for this charity. We thought it would be good if children could wear their festive jumpers that day if they have one (please note non-uniform is allowed instead). Donations towards Save the Children are welcome.

### **Christingle Service**



At the end of this term children will be visiting St Barnabas Church for our Christingle service. Prior to this, pupils will make their own Christingle orange for the service as part of their Christmas activities. Unfortunately, as part of our Covid safety measures, this service will be for pupils only in a closed service and we appreciate your understanding with this.

### **Christmas Disco and Party Day 16<sup>th</sup> December**



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December will be a treat day for our pupils to reward their fantastic behaviour and hard work. This will be a non-uniform day where children can wear their party clothes/Christmas jumper or leisure clothes. On this day there will be:

- ✚ A morning of fun activities
- ✚ Christmas lunch for children (packed lunch children will receive a text about the option to join in due course)
- ✚ A free school disco in the afternoon (Infants will be 1.15-2.15pm and Juniors 2.15-3.15pm)

### **Parents' Evening**

We have debated how to hold Parents' Evenings this term as our plan was to have them in school. However, for this term we will continue with the system we put in place last academic year to ensure everyone's safety. You will receive your child's academic report through the post. This will allow you to see their attainment and progress in all subjects along with general comments. Teachers will be telephoning parents to discuss the report from week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> November. You will receive a text in due course with a list of available times for a telephone conversation with the class teacher if you would like to arrange this.

### **Supporting Local Projects**

We aim to support our local community and one of the ways we do this is by gathering donations for the food bank. This year we will be donating to the one in Fencehouses. If you have any spare dried goods (i.e. pasta or rice) or any tins of food then we would be pleased to accept them and pass them on to this local service. Food can be brought in at any time leading up to Christmas. Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

### **Named Equipment**

Just a reminder for the safety of all pupils please send your child in each day with their own named water bottle. Also, can you ensure that your child has their named PE kit in school. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

### **Christmas Performances**

We have thought very carefully about how to have safe Christmas performances for parents and children as we continue to get updates from our local authority on reinstating/continuing key measures to protect our community. This is due to rising cases in our local area, particularly amongst school age children. Therefore we are looking at the following option to ensure everyone's safety: infants and juniors will do their own mini show (i.e. songs and readings) and this can be videoed and uploaded to our website. However if it is safe to do so, we are considering how to share these mini shows outside with parents with suitable measures in place to keep everyone safe. We need to closely monitor advice given to protect schools. Further information about this will follow and your patience with our planning and decision making is greatly appreciated

### **Key Dates**

Below is the list of school holidays for your information. This will ensure that holidays are taken out of term time to allow your child to attend school – you can find full details of holiday dates on the Durham County website. We update the calendar on our school website home page to show dates and information so please check this on [www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk](http://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk)

### **School Holiday Dates**

<b>Staff training days (school closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>
Christmas 2021	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 to Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Spring half-term 2022	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022 to Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Staff training days (school closed to pupils)	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2022
Easter 2022	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
Bank Holiday 2022	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022
Summer half-term 2022	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
Staff training day (school closed to pupils)	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 and Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
Summer 2022	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022

**PLEASE NOTE WE ARE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021 FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS AND RETURN ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022. WE WISH YOU ALL A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.**

Yours sincerely, *L A Snowdon* Mrs Laura Snowdon (Headteacher)