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 Our **Value of the Month** for January is **DETERMINATION** 

Newsletter – January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back

Happy New Year and welcome back to our new term. The children all worked so hard last term so I hope you all had a good Christmas and they had a well-earned break. It was lovely to see the children enjoying their end of term disco and completing Christmas activities. They looked great in their Christmas outfits and jumpers! We would like to say a huge thank you for last term and all the support we received, including the kind words and gifts for staff.

We know that it is very important that schools remain open to ensure all children can access their learning and socialise with their friends. We have been very fortunate in the past that we have not had to send bubbles home. However, the cases of Covid are very high and we will have to be flexible in our school to ensure that children can come in when we are affected by staff absence. Already this term we have some staff who are isolating and therefore we are required to mix groups. We are adept at mixed-age planning and teaching in our school so staff are able to do this; your support with any unplanned changes is appreciated in advance.

We know that due to the very high cases currently, and the new strain of Covid, it is more important than ever to follow procedures that keep us safe. Please support us by continuing to follow all the procedures in place and if you are exempt from wearing a mask, or have had Covid previously, please wear a visor to ensure that face coverings are worn by all adults on our school premises. It is up to us all to look after our school community and help each other and your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Contact Details



Please ensure we have your up to date contact details including mobile phone number. If we need to contact you in case of emergency for example, it is vital that you are able to answer and respond quickly. This also includes any phone numbers on your child's 'Collected By' form that lets us know who can collect your child. Please remember that only adults aged 18 or over can collect a child and therefore we will only accept numbers and details for them. We politely request that all children are collected on time after school and your help with this is appreciated.

Family Support Advisor

Just a reminder that our Parent Support Advisor is Claire Donnelly. Mrs Donnelly works in school each week and is keen to support children and families. If you would like to speak to Mrs Donnelly please contact school on 0191 3854291 and we can arrange an appointment. She is in school every Wednesday and is available to talk to children and families to offer support and advice. In addition, if you have a concern or query please telephone, email or speak to a member of staff so we can listen and try to resolve any issues raised. We really appreciate the opportunity to talk about any concerns you have and to work with parents and families to support.

School Closure Procedures



In cases of extremely bad weather this winter we may have to consider school closure. We always avoid this option but at times it is required. If our school has to close because of adverse weather conditions, any announcements will be made by: text, via the school website (www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk) and local radio stations i.e. Metro Radio and Radio Newcastle. Please make sure we have your up to date mobile phone number so you can be contacted.

Reading Ideas



If you would like some ideas for books that your child might like then you could look at www.booksfortopics.com as this site has lots of suggestions especially linked to History, Geography or Science. This may help with the new topics your child will be learning about this term.

Also try looking at:

- BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/this-terms-topics>
Specific reading lessons aimed at Key Stages One and Two.
- Book Trust: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>
Games, activities and videos of stories aimed at EYFS and Key Stage One.
- Oxford Owl: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>
Free downloaded e-books for all ages.

Clarification on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Just for your information, here is the latest update on self-isolation in schools and we hope you find this helpful in deciding when your child should return to school:

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 days self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.

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

School Holiday Dates



Spring half-term 2022	Friday 18 th February 2022 to Monday 28 th February 2022
Staff training days (school closed to pupils)	Monday 21 st March 2022
Easter 2022	Friday 8 th April 2022 to Monday 25 th April 2022
Bank Holiday 2022	Friday 29 th April 2022 to Tuesday 3 rd May 2022
Summer half-term 2022	Friday 27 th May 2022 to Monday 6 th June 2022
Staff training day (school closed to pupils)	Friday 17 th June 2022 and Monday 20 th June 2022
Summer 2022	Thursday 21 st July 2022

**JUST A REMINDER THAT SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3.15PM ON FRIDAY 18th FEBRUARY FOR OUR HALF TERM HOLIDAY.
WE RE-OPEN ON MONDAY 28th FEBRUARY.**

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