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Our **Value of the Month** for September is **RESPONSIBILITY** and for October **POSITIVITY**

September/October 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to all our families and children as we return to school for this academic year. Our new starters came into school yesterday full of energy and it was wonderful to welcome them. Our Early Years staff report that the children are settling in very well and enjoying meeting their new friends. Staff have worked very hard during the summer holidays to get new displays on the walls, organise resources and set up their new class rooms ready for pupils returning. The school looks great and we hope that children enjoy their return to school. As always, if you have any concerns please speak to Mrs Snowdon, Mr Seaton or the class teacher so we can quickly work together to resolve any issues.

School Brochure



Our new school brochure is now on our website for 2022-2023. This provides details of the school day, uniform (including being an earring-free school) and a list of our school governors. It can be downloaded from our website or by clicking on the following link: <https://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/50/2022/09/School-Prospectus-2022-to-2023.pdf>

Swimming and Sports



Swimming lessons start from Monday 12th September and this term Year 5/6 will be going. Children will need to bring their swimming costume and towel each week (goggles are optional). Last year we were given the Monday afternoon slot and this continues this year. Unfortunately, due to timetable issues, we have not been able to book our usual sports coach, therefore we will not be able to offer the Monday morning sports club this term.

School Photos



The school photographer will be in on Thursday 13th October to take class and individual photographs. The photos will be taken across the school day so your child just needs to attend in uniform as usual. Nursery photos will be taken in the morning so all children who attend (including our 30-hour pupils) can get their photographs taken.

Named Equipment



Please send your child in each day with their own named water bottle. Having their name on the bottle helps to reduce any lost property. Also, can you ensure that your child has their named PE kit in school. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Applications for School Places in 2023



The application process for admission to Reception in September 2023 opened on 5th September and closes on 15th January 2023. Please note that if your child comes to our nursery you still need to apply through this process via Durham Local Authority to request a place in our school. Applications for secondary school opened on 5th September and closes on 31st October 2022. For more information please visit: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

Rewards and Certificates



Each week in class the children find out who is the 'Star of the Week', 'Rock Star Reader' and also who has achieved the 'Presentation Award'. We know that children enjoy this time as it celebrates their good work and dedication and rewards them for trying so hard. Our Rock Star Reader Mascot (shown above) was designed by one of our former pupils to promote and celebrate the love of reading, as we know how vitally important it is for children to learn to read and understand the text.

Curriculum Grids



We have put the new curriculum grids on our school website which outline what your child will be learning in school across the year. You can find them in our curriculum section or by clicking this link: <https://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/our-curriculum/curriculum-content/>

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 each Wednesday and is available to meet with 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 offer support.

Safeguarding

All staff and governors are committed to keeping children safe at Bournmoor Primary. We update our safeguarding policies and procedures annually they reflect the changes in the government's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. If you have any concerns about a child you can speak to Mrs Snowdon, who is Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Seaton who is also a DSL or alternatively you can phone First Contact on 03000 267979.

School Dinners

If you would like your child to change from packed lunch to school dinners (or vice versa) then the office requires one week's notice. Your support with this is appreciated. Just a reminder to parents who are paying dinner money on ParentPay to ensure the account stays in credit. From this term, our lunches are provided by Chartwells. Please note that all infant children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to a free school dinner through government funding. If your infant child is currently on packed lunch and you would like them to receive their free lunches, please telephone the school office to let us know.

Reading Ideas

We continue our focus on the importance of reading in our school to develop a life-long love of texts and stories. 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. 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.

Contact Details

It is very important that 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. If you have changed your number recently please telephone school so we can update our records. 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.

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.

School Holiday Dates

Tuesday 6 September 2022	Children return to school
Autumn half-term 2022	Friday 21 October 2022 to Monday 31 October 2022
Staff training days (school closed to pupils)	Friday 18 November 2022 and Monday 21 November 2022
Christmas 2022	Tuesday 20 December 2022 to Wednesday 4 January 2023
Spring half-term 2023	Friday 17 February 2023 to Monday 27 February 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31 March 2023 to Monday 17 April 2023
Bank Holiday 2023	Friday 28 April 2023 to Tuesday 2 May 2023
Summer half-term 2023	Friday 26 May 2023 to Monday 5 June 2023
Staff training day (school closed to pupils)	Friday 15 June 2023 and Monday 19 June 2023
Summer 2023	Friday 21 July 2023

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