



Lambourne Close, Bournmoor, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 6HF 0191 3854291
e-mail: ournmoor@durhamlearning.net web: www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk

Our **Value of the Month** for October is **POSITIVITY** and for November is **Friendship**

October/November 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term has started very well and children have settled back into school. We are looking ahead to events that occur this term and have tried to provide dates for your diary as we know it gets so busy close to Christmas! When we return after the half term we will be having a Halloween disco and the details for that are below along with other upcoming events. Thank you for all your support and remember to please ask myself or a member of staff if you have any questions or queries as we are here to help.



Staff News

We start with some staffing news as our Early Years teacher Miss Pigg will be leaving at the end of the autumn term. We wish her all the very best. She has been teaching at Bournmoor School for 5 years and has taught every pupil in our school up to our current Year 5 so everyone knows her so well! Her work in setting up our governor-led nursery was greatly appreciated. Her warm welcome to our youngest pupils each day helps each child to come in positively to do their very best. She is leaving to pursue other opportunities including supply work and we know she will continue to be brilliant in her next ventures. We will let you know when the Early Years post is appointed prior to January so our new EY teacher can become familiar with our pupils and school. Miss Pigg will help to make the transition to the new teacher as smooth as possible.

Secondary School Places

If your child is currently in Year 6 please ensure that you apply for a place in secondary school before the deadline closes on 31st October 2022. Each Local Authority provides advice and guidance on how to do this on their portal.



Guide dog visit – Early Years

We are looking forward to welcoming visitors from Guide Dogs for the Blind in Early Years this week. Miss Pigg has arranged for guide dogs and members of staff from the charity to come along and talk to the children. We hope the children will enjoy this experience and the opportunity to meet a working dog to find out all about their important role.



Halloween Disco

We return to school on Monday 31st October after half term and this will also be the day of our Halloween disco. Children can come to school on that day wearing non-uniform or their Halloween costume if they would like to. There is no charge for the disco which will be on the afternoon, finishing in time for children to go home as usual. If your child attends nursery in the morning then you can swap for an afternoon session that day if they would like to come along.



Class assembly – Year 3/4

Miss Hartley's class (Year 3/4) have their class assembly on 9th November at 9am. Parents and carers of pupils in Y3/4 are welcome to come along and watch. We look forward to welcoming you.

Earrings in school

Please support us to be an earring-free school by removing your child's earrings before they come to school each day. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

School Photos

Just a reminder that 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.

Year 5/6 Sports work

This ½ term Year 5/6 are working with a sports coach from the Durham School Sports Partnership to develop team work, confidence and resilience. The first session also included a visit from Alex Dewar, an Invictus Games athlete, to share his skills and expertise in sports. The children work very hard in these sessions and their skills are developing week on week.

Black History Month

We teach Black History throughout October as part of our work on diversity. Learning about this can include English lessons looking at different individuals from musicians to key figures in sports or PSHE sessions. Also, we focus on the positive impact that individuals can have for example, Marcus Rashford and his campaign against child poverty. This national celebration aims to promote and celebrate Black contributions to British society, and to foster an understanding of Black history in general.

Winter Warmth Support



Our Parent Support Advisor Claire Donnelly will be taking donations for clean, nearly new or new hats, scarves, gloves and winter coats to hand out to anyone in our school community who would like some additional warm clothing for the winter ahead. If you have any items for children of all ages (and even some adult ones for our older pupils) then please send them in and hand them to a member of staff or the school office. Mrs Donnelly will offer a time to distribute them so if you would like to contact her or leave a message through our school office please get in touch. Any spare clothes that aren't needed will go to the Salvation Army. We thank you in advance for your generosity if you have any items to donate to school.

Autumn term parents' evenings 28th and 30th November

Towards the end of this term you will be invited into school to speak to the class teacher and look at your child's work. This gives you an opportunity to look at your child's progress and discuss their learning with the teacher. A text message will be sent out so you can click and book a slot closer to the time. Our teachers are available at the start and end of each day to meet and greet parents but this meeting provides an opportunity to focus on your child's strengths in their learning and next steps to help them.

Christmas Fayre and Christmas Jumper Day 8th December



Our Christmas Fayre will be on Thursday 8th December and we look forward to welcoming parents and families along. The fayre will start at 2.30pm to allow parents to come along and have a hot drink and look around the stalls if they would like to before collecting children from school at 3.15pm. The fayre will be on until 4.30pm to give everyone a chance to look around the stalls. If you would like to book a stall to sell items at the fayre, please telephone the school office. As this is also the date for national 'Christmas Jumper Day' your child can wear non-uniform/Christmas jumpers on that day.

Christmas Shows



At the end of term, we look forward to welcoming you into school to watch your child's Christmas performance.

- The infant Christmas show will be on the afternoon of Wednesday 14th December (maximum 2 tickets per family)
- The junior show will be on the afternoon of Thursday 15th December (maximum 2 tickets per family)
- We also offer our traditional grandparent show which will be on the afternoon of Tuesday 13th December (maximum 2 tickets per family).

Please note that due to the serving of hot drinks, children are not permitted to come to the grandparent show on 13th December.

We know how much parents enjoy these shows but due to limited space in our hall we offer a maximum of 2 seats per family and if you bring a child along, this counts as 1 seat. Closer to the time we will send out numbered tickets for you to come along and enjoy the show.

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

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)