

# Belmont Primary School Newsletter March 4th 2016



Dear Parents,

Once again, it has been a hive of activity this week with a range of activities going on across the school. Furthermore, it also seems as though we may finally be moving into Springtime, something to lift everybody's spirits!

### Mothers' Day Assembly

I was really disappointed to miss the assembly yesterday as I always look forward to the children's performances. However, I have been informed how fantastic the children all were, as always. Many thanks to all who attended, the staff who worked tirelessly with the children, FoB for providing refreshments and, of course, the performers themselves.

### Easter Assembly

This was originally scheduled for the 16th and 17th March. However, due to the fact that this is a particularly short half term, the decision has been made to put this back to the 22nd and 23rd March. We very much hope that this does not cause too much inconvenience but without the additional time, it would have been very difficult to rehearse sufficiently to maintain the quality of the performance.

### Transition

This year, transition arrangements will be slightly different. Along with other schools in the East Cleveland Cooperative Learning Trust, we believe that effective transition into the next year group is pivotal to children making good progress. With this in mind, the Year Six children will be spending the week beginning 4th July at Laurence Jackson School. Here, we will be conducting a two week transition whereby the children will be spending two weeks in their new classes. The duration of this will be from the 4th July through to the 15th July and applies to all children currently in Reception up to Year Five. This will effectively mean that they will commence their curriculum for September during those two weeks. More information about this will be provided nearer the time, but we feel as a group of schools that this will benefit the children.

### EU Referendum

Not something I would usually write about in the newsletter, however there is an impact of this on the school! Use of the building as a polling station has been requested for **Thursday 23rd June** and, as such, the school will be closed for a PD Day.

### Fun Run

Many of you will be aware that one of our former pupils, Rhys Clapton, is suffering from a rare medical condition causing severe deterioration in his eyesight. There is currently fundraising to support his family in being able to take a 'once in a lifetime trip' to EuroDisney. We feel that we would very much like to support this worthy cause here at Belmont and, with that in mind, propose to have a sponsored 'fun run' on the last day of term, Thursday 24th March for the children. Further to this, it will also be a 'non uniform day' where children can wear appropriate clothes of their choosing for a fine of one pound. We very much hope that you too will feel this a worthwhile cause and will support us in helping make the dream come true.

### Statutory Testing

Those of you who attended the curriculum presentations before half term will be aware of the procedures for this year's testing arrangements. As always, there will be a 'phonics check' for children in Year One (and those in Year Two who did not meet the standard last year). In Year Two, children will, this year, sit tests in reading, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling. In Year Six, the children will be tested on reading, mathematical arithmetic, mathematical reasoning and grammar, punctuation and spelling. It is important that children are in school for the administration dates (see below).

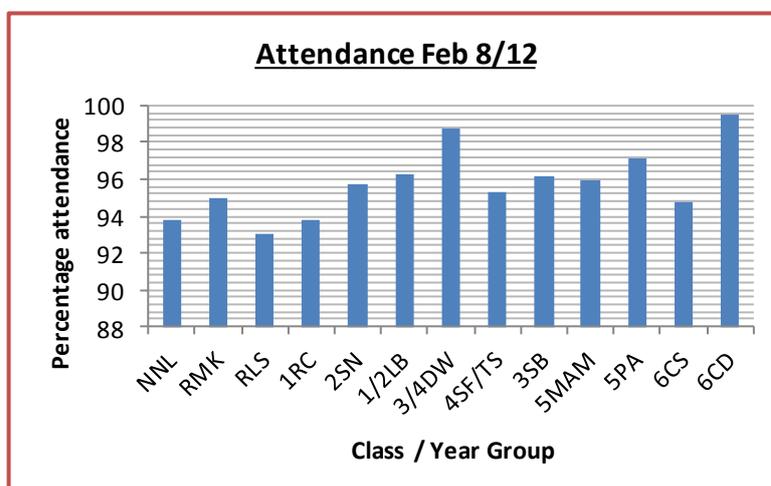
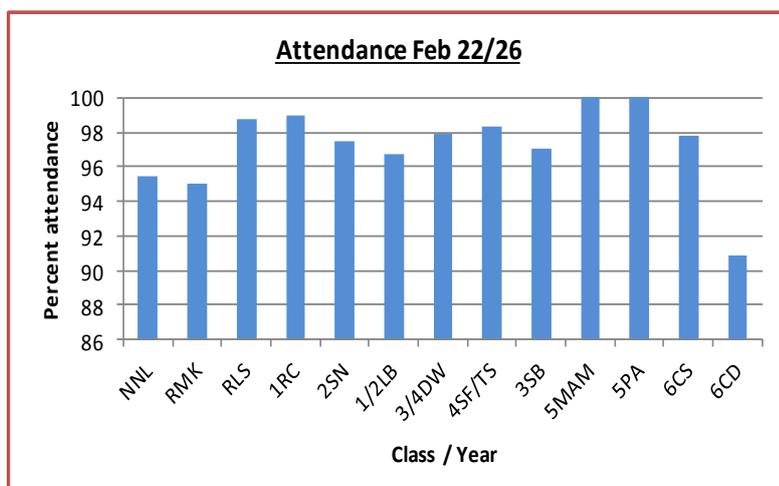
### Cross Country Running

Well done to all who took part in the school cross country run and also to those who qualified for the additional round earlier this week. From this, we have had children qualifying for the next round too!

### Attendance

As mentioned previously, we are trying hard to improve attendance across the school. At this time of year, there can be a number of ailments around but, where possible, it is really important to maintain attendance as it has been shown that missed sessions negatively impacts on development and progress. Of course, where somebody is really unwell or has had the 'sickness bug', it is not appropriate to be in school. However, coughs and colds can, in most cases, be overcome sufficiently to be in school.

Last week, both Year Five classes had 100% attendance which won each member of the class a 'dip in the prize bag'! The graphs below show the attendances for the dates shown on the title. I am keen to see if we can achieve a week whereby all classes attain 100%! I'm sure it can be done!





Readers and Writers 05.02.2016

Readers and Writers 12.02.2016



Readers and Writers 26.02.2016

Readers and Writers 04.03.2016



Diary Dates

- ⇒ Thursday 17th March: Year Five 'strings' performance;
- ⇒ Friday 18th March: Year 4 'Taiko drumming' performance;
- ⇒ Friday 18th March: Reports sent home;
- ⇒ Monday 21st March: Parents' Evening (3.30pm - 6pm);
- ⇒ Tuesday 22nd March / Wednesday 23rd March: Easter Assemblies (information to follow);
- ⇒ Wednesday 23rd March: Parents' Evening (3.30pm - 6pm);
- ⇒ Thursday 24th March: Fun Run;
- ⇒ Thursday 24th March: Term ends;
- ⇒ Monday 11th April: Return to school;
- ⇒ Wednesday 13th April: Year 5 trip to Robinwood;
- ⇒ Friday 15th April: Year 5 return;
- ⇒ **THROUGHOUT MAY: YEAR TWO TESTING MONTH;**
- ⇒ Monday 2nd May: May Bank Holiday: School closed;
- ⇒ Thursday 5th May: Nursery closed due to use as polling station;
- ⇒ **MONDAY 9TH MAY - FRIDAY 13TH MAY: YEAR 6 SATS WEEK;**
- ⇒ Friday May 27th: School closes for Half Term;
- ⇒ Monday 6th June: School re opens;
- ⇒ **MONDAY 13TH JUNE - FRIDAY 17TH JUNE: YEAR ONE PHONICS CHECK WEEK;**
- ⇒ Thursday 23rd June: School Closure (PD Day);
- ⇒ Monday 4th July - Friday 8th July: Year Six transition to Laurence Jackson;
- ⇒ Monday 4th July - Friday 15th July: Reception to Year Five 'in school' transition fortnight.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend,  
Yours Sincerely,

C. Gibson