

Happy Friday!

Hello everyone - we've made it! It has been another **busy half-term** but one which I have enjoyed enormously. Hopefully you have been able to follow what we've been up to in school by keeping up with these weekly **newsletters** and regular posts on **Facebook**. The staff all work exceptionally hard to provide memorable and engaging learning experiences for all of our children and I am very grateful for their efforts. This week we welcomed Reverend Doherty into school to deliver an assembly on **resilience** - a vitally important skill for everyone in school. I enjoyed welcoming more of you into school this week for Parents Evening so we could share the progress and successes of your children. I hope that you and your families are all able to enjoy a peaceful half-term break and come back to school in just over a week refreshed, recharged and ready for the new term.



Next half-term is only five weeks long and we break up for Easter on **Friday 31st March**. Before then, there is the small matter of the **League Cup Final**. Whether you're travelling down to London or watching closer to home, I hope that it's an afternoon to remember. **Howay the lads!**

Mr Routledge

Mrs Parker

Everyone at Beaconhill was saddened to learn of the passing of former colleague **Pam Parker** who died earlier this month. Pam had worked for the school for just shy of **28 years** and was well-loved by all. Although I never had the pleasure of meeting her, many staff have spoken with great fondness of her. I am sure you will join us in passing on our deep condolences to the family and, especially, her husband and their four children. Her funeral will take place on **Friday 3rd March** and it is fitting that the hearse will briefly pause close to the school as Beaconhill Primary held a special place in her heart.

Parents Evening

It was fantastic to see so many of you over the last couple of weeks for parents evening appointments. Thanks to **Mrs Mort**, **Miss Fox** and **Miss Stephenson** for helping to keep everyone on time. I hope you had the chance to enjoy looking through our new **PSHE floor books** and see the artwork on display in the hallway. For those of you who haven't yet made an appointment, can you please contact us to make an alternative appointment as soon as possible.

Black and White Day

It was fantastic to see the school turn into a **sea of black and white** today. I dusted off my **1995-1997 home shirt** which was a favourite when I was in Primary School. The children have been working hard over the last couple of weeks to write **good luck letters** and **cards** to the players which I have sent to Eddie Howe at the training ground. Who knows - perhaps the letters will provide that extra bit of motivation which helps the players to secure some **silverware** for the first time in more than **50 years!** Thanks to **Mrs Luke** and **Mrs Walton** in the kitchen for making **Newcastle United cupcakes** at short notice for the children. Thanks also to **Mr Luke-Green**, **Mrs Jewitt**, **Mrs Bell** and **Mrs Thompson** for decorating the hall with black and white balloons and bunting.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating **World Book Day** on **Thursday 2nd March**. Classes will be doing lots of work around **traditional tales** and may come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in bright colours.

Reading

We have noticed recently that some children are not **reading regularly** to an **adult at home**. At Beaconhill, we recognise the importance of **regular reading both at school and at home**. The expectation is that children should read with an adult at home at least once a week and, ideally, even more often. A **comment** should then be written into **reading records**. In your child's reading record, there is an **information sheet** detailing the things you may wish to comment on. Children bring a reading book home every Tuesday which is then due back the following Monday. Reading regularly with your child has a massive benefit in terms of progress in reading and writing.

Family Hub Workshops

One of our contacts at the **Family Hub** have asked us to let you know about the **parenting drop in service** running from the **Community House** in **Eastlea estate**. It's held weekly on a **Wednesday** and for each session, a family worker is there to provide parenting advice. There is no need to book a slot for each session so those who are interested can just pop in at their convenience. Further information will follow after half-term.

Long Hair

Could we politely remind you that **long hair** (below shoulder length) should be tied up when children are in school. This is important from a **health and safety** point of view in PE lessons and also to ensure it doesn't obscure their view when completing work in the classroom.

Dinners

Just a reminder that as a school we **do not offer credit** on **school dinners**. School dinners must be **paid for in advance** and no later than the day before. If you require a school lunch without having paid for it in advance, you can pay cash via the school office.

Beach

This week, **Year Four** have visited the beach to produce **insect themed artwork**. Children used natural materials that they were able to scavenge to produce large representations of insects. The photographs on Facebook look great and I'd encourage you to have a look! During the second half of the week, **Year Three** have been to **Hauxley** to produce some of their own cave art. Thankfully the weather held up nicely (other than the strong winds this morning!) but it is always important to remember to send your child to school on their beach days prepared for the weather.

