

Welcome Back!

The new term is now in **full swing**. This week in **assembly**, we talked about our **hopes** and **dreams**. **Ambition** is one of our **core values** so we like to celebrate occasions where children shoot for the stars! **Mr Shepherd** has created a brilliant **display** in the school hall which is where we celebrate **sporting success** outside of school. Any **medals** or **trophies** won in recent **sports competitions** and **festivals** are always welcome in school for us to **celebrate!** Have a lovely weekend! Mr Routledge



Mrs Birks

I am pleased (but saddened!) that the wonderful **Mrs Birks** has decided to retire at the end of this **school term**. Mrs Birks has worked with children at **Beaconhill** since **1991** and has worked in **Early Years** for well over **20 years**. Mrs Birks has been a **dedicated** and **highly valued** member of staff and will be a **huge miss**. I am sure she will make the very most of her **retirement** and enjoy time away with her family in the **caravan!** **Thankfully**, we still have her up until **Easter** and she has agreed to come back voluntarily in some capacity!



Bikes and Scooters

We would like to remind everyone of the **importance** of **wearing a helmet** when using a **bike** or **scooter**. Helmets provide **crucial protection** in the event of a **fall** or **accident**, reducing the risk of serious **head injuries**. It's essential that children develop the **habit** of **wearing a helmet** every time they ride - setting a positive example for safety. This is particularly **pertinent** as one of our pupils, Josh, recently suffered a **nasty injury** to his **head** and **face**. Josh fell off his **scooter** on his way to school and **wasn't wearing a helmet**. Thankfully, he made a full recovery but **Josh** and his dad were keen to share this with you to help **encourage safe use** of **bikes** and **scooters**.



Snapchat

A reminder to parents/carers of children who may be using the **Snapchat** app. Snapchat is a **social media app** designed for users aged **13** and **older**, but its use by primary-aged children raises significant **safety** and **developmental concerns**. The app's features, such as **disappearing messages**, **Snap Maps**, and **public stories**, can expose young users to **privacy risks**, **inappropriate content** and **cyberbullying**. Children at this age may lack the **maturity** to navigate these challenges responsibly, making them more vulnerable to exploitation or harmful interactions. Additionally, the **addictive nature** of the app can impact their **focus**, **mental health** and **social skills**. Parents/carers may wish to closely **monitor** device use and set **age-appropriate boundaries** to ensure that children can safely explore digital platforms.



Doodle Maths

Some of our **Key Stage One** have been making amazing progress on **Doodle Maths**. This year we have invested in the **Doodle programme** to **support learning** in school as well as at home. The app is designed to provide children

with maths **games** and **challenges** at a level specific to **their** own **learning**. Children **earn stars** by **answering questions** and can spend the stars as a **virtual currency** to create their own characters. We advocate a '**little and often**' approach so children aren't having too much **screen time**. For example, children might choose to access the app **three** or **four times** per week for **ten minutes** or so. My son has his own account so we also use it at home and, from the perspective of a parent, it's brilliant!



Year Five Beach

This week, **Year Five** visited **Druridge Bay**. The children worked in teams to build a shelter which required them to use our core values of **creativity**, **resilience** and **respect**. Once the shelters were built, they were put to the test by the grown ups to check they were **sturdy**, **water tight** and big enough to house the **whole team**. As a reward for their hard work, children were treated to **hot chocolate** and **s'mores** around the fire pit. It's great to see so many of our core values being demonstrated - keep it up!



Year Five Skipping

This week, our **Year Five** children were visited by **Linda** from **Skipping School**. She taught the class a range of **individual** and **team** skipping **skills**. In **March**, ten of our children will represent the school at a team **skipping competition** at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea Sports Centre so watch this space!

Footwear

A reminder that our **uniform expectation** is that children wear **plain black shoes** for school. Shoes without a proper heel e.g. **crocs**, **slippers** and **sandals** are not safe for school. On PE days, children should wear trainers but these do not have to be black. For younger children, **velcro** is preferable if they cannot yet **tie their own laces**.

Family Hub

Our colleagues at the **Family Hub** have asked us to share **details** about events taking place **locally**. The **Family Hub** carries out a range of work in the **local community** which ranges from **birth registration**, **midwifery** and **health services**, **infant feeding** support, **primary mental health**, **community events**, **relationship support**, **digital learning** and much more. Follow the link to find out more. [South East Northumberland Family Hubs \(Blyth, Cramlington & Seaton Valley\) What's On Padlet](#)



Road Safety

A **member of the public** contacted us earlier this week to say that they'd witnessed one of our pupils **run across the road** on the way home from school which caused a **car** to **brake sharply**. We will do some **Road Safety** work in school next week as a reminder but we'd appreciate it if you could also **reinforce** this **important message** at home.





On the Menu Next Week . . .

Beaconhill Primary School Autumn One 2024 Menu WEEK THREE



Homemade Dish

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course Choices	Pizza Wrap Fishfingers Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce Tuna & Mozzarella Melts Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings 	Mince and Dumplings Tomato and Basil Pasta Sandwich with a Choice of fillings 	Gammon dinner/Quorn Fillet with Yorkshire Pudding Chicken Goujons Jacket Potatoes with a Choice of Fillings 	Fish Fingers Sausage/Vegetarian Sausage Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings
Potatoes Pasta / Rice	Oven Baked Potato Wedges	Pasta Crusty bread	Mashed Potato Crusty Bread	Roast Potatoes	Chips
Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Baked Beans
Salad Bar	Seasonal Salads	Seasonal Salads	Seasonal Salads	Seasonal Salads	Seasonal Salads
Starters or Sweets	Marshmallow Crispy Squares	Strawberry Delight 	Cheesecake 	Homemade Biscuit Glass of Milk or Juice 	School Pudding of the Day



Fresh fruit and a selection of breads are available at every meal.
 Drinking water is also provided on dining room tables.
 Menus are subject to change.