



2.11.22

We have poppies available in school for the children to wear. Should you be able to support the Royal British Legion in their annual campaign, please send a donation to school with your child.

Mini Vinnies are also producing small poppy crosses to be placed in the school grounds in remembrance to loved ones. This does not need to be just those lost in conflict, it could be any loved one. Should you wish to have a cross placed in their name please send a small donation and their name in an envelope marked 'Poppy Cross'.

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November we would like to invite you into the school yard to share in a minute's silence with us as. Some children will share some poems and prayers so that we can thank those who have made sacrifices for others in conflict.

There will be a small group of children joining other school children from the town at the war memorial on Front Street at the same time next Friday.

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November you are also invited to join us in the town's Remembrance Parade. Please meet at the Salvation Army building at 2pm and we will find our place in the parade. This is always a wonderful community event and gives you a sense of pride with be a member of the Bedlington Community.



Following the success of the Autumn Fayre where we raised slightly more than **£750** we have planned another fayre. A massive thank you to everyone who came to the Fayre and donated.

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm we are going to hold a Christmas Fayre. Again, entry will be via a donation to the Matthew Project, perhaps something that would help a family at Christmas. We received an email from the project manager recently and he thanked our community for their support acknowledging that they appreciate it is a tough time for everyone but that the donations are so needed for those people struggling to feed themselves.

Each class will again hold a stall of goods that they have created and we will have a selection of tombola stalls. In the weeks running up to the Fayre, we will request items for the tombola. This week we will gratefully receive and toiletries that you may have spare. Please send them into school with your child or hand into the school office. Thank you.

We would also like to hold a raffle that will be drawn in the last week of the term. We would love to receive any prizes for the raffle (no soft toys), if you feel you can offer or if you are aware of any local businesses that may wish to support us.



Yesterday we sent out information regarding our annual trip to the Christmas Pantomime at The Tyne Theatre.

This event is planned so that the children get the opportunity to visit a traditional theatre and experience a traditional pantomime. It is always a wonderful event and one that we feel is important for the children.

I know that many families are feeling a financial strain at the moment more than the usual run up to Christmas. We have strived to keep the cost of the panto as low as possible and where we can, we will help those families who need additional help. Please get in touch with me should you feel a little assistance would be needed.

In working out the cost of the panto trip we have to consider the cost of the tickets into the theatre and also the cost of the transport to Newcastle. Transport costs have escalated so much over the course of this year and so looking to the future as a school we will have to consider very carefully whether we can take the children on trips. Even short distances are expensive now.

Sadly, the current national financial situation is also impacting school budgets and spending in schools has to be focused on the core business – the learning in the classroom. Additional activities really are luxuries at the moment.

In addition to the pantomime in Newcastle the children are also going to be a part of a show in school on the 20<sup>th</sup> December where they will meet the Clumsiest Elf. We are beginning to quietly get excited about Christmas!

We are also hoping to welcome a man in a red suit on the same day at the fayre. If he has the time he will pop in to see the children and have a photo taken. When he has left to visit another location, we hope that the grotto will be available during the fayre as a photo booth for families.



### **Children due to start Reception Class in September 2023**

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 5pm we would like to invite into school parents of children due to start Reception in September 2023. This is an opportunity to see our Reception Class

environment and hear about Reception at St Bede's. We will also be available to answer questions about the application process for school.

This is an open event for any parents of children due to begin school next year irrelevant of the nursery the children currently attend.

