



Ben Rhydding Primary School
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NEWSLETTER 05 05 17

Dear Parents/Guardians

The School's most recent Ofsted report has just been released to us and is due to be published on the Ofsted website on Monday 8th May. The report will be emailed to all parents/guardians today and paper copies can be collected from the office upon request.

The overall judgement of the school is 'Requires Improvement', and I think we all agree that this is a fair reflection, given the past 2 years of instability, changes in structure, leadership and the uncertainty that this creates.

Whilst the overall judgement may seem disappointing, actually the detail of the report is somewhat more positive. Much of the judgement relies on our data from the past 2 years, and recognises that we are now doing all the right things to get the school to where it needs to be.

Since September, we have introduced a number of key changes, including the reintroduction and application of the schools behaviour policy and the complete overhaul of the schools child protection and health and safety procedures. These were identified as having an immediate and positive impact.

Other changes, including the reintroduction of middle leadership, new assessment procedures and new teaching and learning monitoring take longer to demonstrate their impact. However, this report recognises that these things are in place and taking the school in the right direction – they just need time for the results to show that they are working.

The school will continue to work hard to address all the points raised by Ofsted and I fully expect that the progress made from September will continue and the school will be rated as at least 'Good' in all areas when we receive a second visit from Ofsted in approximately two years.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents/guardians, staff, governors and pupils who have supported the schools actions and helped with their smooth and successful introduction since September. Without all your support and help, and working together as a team, such rapid progress in such a short period of time could not have been achieved.

On a different note, the school successfully completed its recruitment process for a new Deputy Head Teacher on Thursday 3rd May. The job attracted a wide field of quality candidates, a number of whom were already Assistant Head Teachers. Upon completion of this process the selection panel were unanimous in its decision and have recruited a candidate with experience who we feel can not only help to continue progressing but also bring so much more. I will be introducing the new Deputy Head Teacher to the school once all the paperwork and safeguarding checks have been completed.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you and well done to all those children and parents that took part in the Ilkley Carnival on Monday. The school looked fantastic and I appreciate the amount of time and effort that goes into making all the costumes and props. Everyone looked fantastic from the Dalmatians to Star Wars characters, a great effort, you all did Ben Rhydding proud.

I will be holding the school's third coffee evening of the year on Tuesday 16th May between 5.30pm – 7.00pm, where parents/guardians, governors and myself can discuss any and all aspects of the school, including the school's most recent Ofsted report, in a constructive and relaxed atmosphere.

Mr Hartford

Dates for the diary

Thursday 11 th May	3.30-4.30pm Year 5 cycle training sessions start in playground
Friday 12 th May	Year 6 Visit
Friday 19 th May	Reception Class Visit to Leeds - info to follow soon.
Friday 23 rd June	Reception and Year 6 Class visits to Nell Bank.

Cycle Helmets required urgently

If anyone has any spare cycle helmets they can give to the school please could you donate by Thursday next week.

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £1.65 per day/£8.25 per week

The cost for dinner money from Monday 24th April – Friday 26th May will be **£39.60**. Please make cheques payable to 'BMC School Meals' and write your child's name on the reverse.

PTA BALL

The PTA ball committee are working hard to ensure the Bollywood Ball is a success.

Businesses can advertise themselves by paying a small fee, £10, to put business cards etc in the goodie bags.

Please may we have tables in by beginning of May.

Order forms are in the office foyer.