



Message from Ms Drew



Well it has been a very busy time at Benthal.

Our Benthal Family library is finally open! Have a look at all the photos. Our visitors, parents and children had a wonderful time. Friday 28th February 9-10am will be the first weekly session open to families. Once you have dropped off your older children, stay and read a book with your little ones. In order for us to become a lending library we need some parent/carer volunteers who could stay for this hour once a week. We can train you up on how to use the library system on the computer. If you have an hour to spare let me know. Whilst we wait you can still come and enjoy a book. It is very exciting.

We had a visit from a Teaching and Learning advisor from Hackney Learning Trust on Wednesday. The advisor focused on the curriculum that Benthal offers our children. A good mix of subjects were seen, including Science & History, RE, reading music, Art and PE. I can report that the advisor was very impressed with what they saw, particularly with the children's strong knowledge of the topics they were learning; a high level of subject specific vocabulary being used by the children and pupil engagement in lessons. The final comment to the Senior leadership team was that Benthal is much further ahead in the curriculum content compared to other schools. This was very pleasing to hear as you can imagine. A huge thank you to all the staff for their continued commitment to ensuring that Benthal is an academic and creative school.

Finally, Benthal Parent Voice will be having their second meeting with myself and the Parent Governor for Stakeholder Voice soon. They will be asking you for some feedback to a few questions during next week. Each rep will then present the opinions of their class parent body which will be discussed at the meeting. I am so pleased that we now have this up and running giving all of our parent/carer community in the school a voice.

Have a great weekend.

Trips

Monday 10th Feb

Yr 1 trip to St Paul's Cathedral

Thursday 13th February

Yr 4 Apollo Music trip to Dream Centre

10th February—14th February

Year 5 Madrid Residential Trip

12th May—15th May

Year 4 to Kench Hill

18th May—22nd May

Year 6 to Frylands



Dates to remember

Friday 14th February

Around The World Workshop Year 1 & Year2

Friday 14th February

Workshop—Keeping safe and knife crime Year 6



Term Dates 2019-2020

- Half Term - Monday 17 - Friday 21 February 2020
- End - Friday 3 April 2020 Finish at 1.30pm

Summer Term 2020

- Start - Monday 20 April 2020
- Half Term - Monday 25 - Friday 29 May 2020
- Inset Day—Mon 1st June 2020
- Last day for Children—Friday 17 July 2020

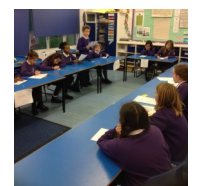
School Premises Safeguarding



Please be reminded that the school gates close at 9.05am so if you arrive after this time, please use the main gate and report to the School office. Please note you can't use the playground gates to leave the school after 9.05am as they need to be locked promptly due to safeguarding. The school gates in the playground close at 3:45pm after school. Therefore, please use the main office if you are late to pick up your child.

Idling Action

Idling Action London came in last week and taught us about air quality and pollution. We measured the air quality in different places at school and started to make posters to ask drivers to switch off their engines whilst waiting so that the air we breathe in gets cleaner.



Afterschool Clubs

We still have some spaces in the following clubs : Art Through Nature, Football (Yr 1&2 and 3&4), Eco Warriors, African Drumming, Debating, Sewing, Drawing Club and Gymnastics. Please encourage your child to try different clubs.

Family Zumba for all ages now takes place 4.30-5.30pm on Mondays, no booking is required and everybody is welcome. The first taster session is free of charge.



Please see below the pictures of the children enjoying the activities in Debating and Eco Warrior clubs!

Benthal Values Certificate Winners

MAGNOLIA— Aameena and Aziza JUNIPER—Ahil and Casey ELDER— Omar and Zelal SERRULA— Siyar and Tara HORNBEAM— Hilton and Nicholas HAZEL— Moyo and Elijah BEECH—Fathin WILLOW—Jasmine and Michael ASH—Greta and Bang ARBUTUS—Shyla and Precious

Reminders

Holiday Music Course

- Hackney Music Service is delighted to be able to invite young musicians to take part in the 17th annual Holiday Music Course. The course will take place during the February half term for three days – Tuesday 18th, 19th and 20th February 2020 at William Patten Primary School. The courses offer full days courses for Strings, Brass and Woodwind, Steel Pans, Instrumental Roundabout (A chance to try out 3 different instruments) – as well as a half-day course in Creative Music Making. For further information, please visit hackneymusic.co.uk/activities/holiday-courses

Lost property

- We have a number of lost property items waiting to be collected. Please collect before half term otherwise the items will be given to charity. Please be reminded to label your child's uniform.

Benthal Family Library Launch

On Friday 31st January, we opened our new Family Library at Benthal. We started the celebrations on Thursday, when each class came to the library and completed a library quest activity. On Friday we were joined by Henrietta Hurford-Jones – Director of Children's content at BBC studios, for a talk about creativity and also author of the Jamie Johnson books Dan Freedman attended the launch and gave a truly inspirational speech to the children, with a Q&A session, followed by a book signing for each of the Key Stage 2 children, who received their own copies of his book. Dan and Ms Drew opened the library with the School Council, whilst the rest of the school completed book related activities, such as designing their own book covers and making book marks. We would like to say a big "Thank You" to the Friends of Benthal Committee for helping to fundraise for our new library and we would like to thank all the parents who attended the celebration!



Benthal Family Library Launch



Attendance

Last weeks winners were Ash with 99.1% attendance. Well done!