



Message from Ms Drew

Well here we are it is the half term break already! I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Benthal staff for their continued hard work this half term.

It has been such a busy half term with lots going on at Benthal, with trips out and about and visitors to the school. We certainly do not sit still at Benthal.

This included 16 children from Year 4 and 5 visiting Madrid at our partner school in Spain this week. Thank you to Ms Williams, Ms Joseph and Mr Biswell for taking the children. Everyone returned safe and sound having a wonderful time.

The children will be ending their science block and will begin their BCC topic on their return. Each BCC topic will focus on geographical and historical skills and enables the children to learn about the topic in depth, this means they remember more. I cannot wait for you to see all the 'irresistible learning' produced by the children during Parents Evening.

The days are beginning to get brighter but the temperature is still very much winter. Please ensure your child wears layers as part of their school uniform and a coat. Everyone needs to keep wrapped up.

Have a great week and see you all on Monday 19th February 2024.

Ms Drew



Willow and Beech Class Assembly

Well done to Willow Class and Beech Class for their wonderful assemblies on poetry. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attend to see and hear the children reciting their poems. Thank you to the Year 4 and 5 teams. It will be Hazel class assembly on Friday 23rd February at 9.15am in the small hall.

Residential trip to Spain 2024

Highlights were the visit to the Spanish school, the children made new friends, experienced a new school culture. They practiced their conversational Spanish. This was followed by visiting the national science museum. We had a picnic in El Retiro Park, a famous big park in Madrid. We had a bus tour around the city, and also a historical walk in the city centre. The children had an opportunity to buy some souvenirs, before arriving back at Heathrow safely this afternoon. Another successful visit and the school continues to be proud of its international partnerships.



CURRICULUM NEWS

Cherry Nursery—We have been learning about the importance of sharing and taking turns. We have investigated shapes and have done some printing with different shapes and paint!

Please contact the school office if you have a 2-year old who is eligible for a funded nursery place from 9am-12pm.

Mulberry Nursery— We have been learning about Lunar New Year. We learned the story behind the Chinese zodiac and the 12 animals that the years are named after. We enjoyed sensory play with red food items. We learned that red is a lucky colour. We also counted coins into lucky red envelopes. Mulberry Class wish everyone celebrating a Happy New Year!



Year 2—have been looking at different information texts in literacy. We have learnt about a range of animals: hedgehogs, red panda, snakes, the list goes on! We have now started to plan our very own information text which we will be writing after the half term! We have also had Mr Grubb, a student teacher, join us!

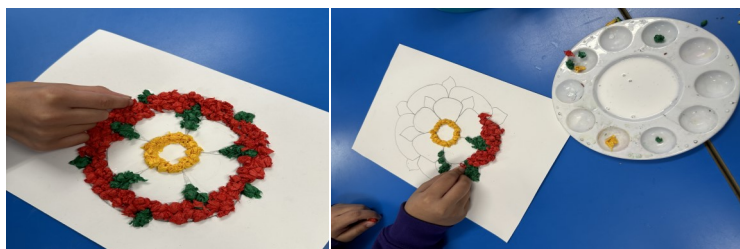


Year 5 learnt about the history of the Tudor Rose and created their own as the start of their BCC topic 'Off With Your Head!'

Year 6 - We attended the Hackney Junior Citizenship Scheme at the Forest Road Youth Hub.

The children participated in various workshops led by the borough's road safety officers, the London Fire Brigade, Transport for London, Hackney Council's dental hygiene and mental health teams, a local Metropolitan Police school officer, and listened to a scenario about snatch theft robbery presented by the local transport police team.

It was a helpful and supportive event that aimed to develop their key skills and aspirations.



DATES TO REMEMBER

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

Dress up as your favourite book character!

Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March

Easter Holiday Activity and Food Programme

2nd April - 5th April

Year 5 Kench Hill Residential Trip

7th May - 10th May

Year 6 Cuffley Residential Trip

22nd May - 25th May



TERM DATES

Spring Term

9th January - 28th March

School ends at 1:30pm, no Playcentre

Spring Half Term

12th February - 16th February

Easter Break

29th March - 14th April

Summer Term

15th April - 23rd July

School ends at 1.30pm, no Playcentre

Summer Half Term

27th May-31st May

Inset Days 2023/24

3rd June 2024

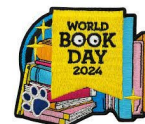
24th July 2024

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

As well as getting dressed as a character from a book, teachers will prepare a fun carousel of activities centred around a book of their choice.

Children from each Key Stage will be allowed to choose a workshop assigned to each book title and will participate in a range of activities that will be fun, interactive, and suitable for all! For example, mask making, character descriptions, poetry inspired by the story, a role-play corner, and small world building. It will be lots of fun.



Reminders

Please check your children's online accounts and ensure that all school services are paid for in advance. If your child is now entitled to means-tested free school meals, you will automatically be charged a discounted rate for the playcentre and will receive a free breakfast club place.

If your child is interested in starting a new club after the half term holiday, we can offer you a free taster session. If your child has never attended playcentre and would like to try it, they can be offered one free taster session too.

Please remember to label your child's school uniform, book bag and a water bottle to ensure that in case it is lost, it can be re-united with its owner.

Please follow our school on our twitter page