

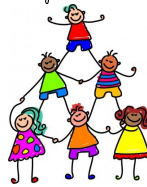


## Message from Ms Drew

Hello and welcome back to Benthal, and welcome to Ms Niall, Ms Rahim and Ms Carranza as new teachers to the school. I hope you all had a fantastic summer break. I had a good rest and feel refreshed and ready for my third year as Headteacher at Benthal. The children have returned with a very clear, focused and academic learning attitude and looking very smart in their uniforms. The school is calm and settled and everyone is looking forward to the year ahead.

As I'm sure you have noticed, we have had some major refurbishments and repairs happen over the summer holidays. Finally, a new boiler for the junior part of the school, with brand new radiators and pipework in the junior classrooms and the large hall! At last the school will be warm this winter. We have also had repairs to the roof. The lower playground has been resurfaced and crumbling and dangerous walls and floors have been repaired. In parts of the playground a few trees had to be removed due to Health and Safety. We will think about how we can create some shade in the lower playground. Unfortunately, the redesign and build of the library has been delayed and will not begin until the end of September. I'm looking forward to the grand opening soon. I'm sure you will agree the school environment is looking very much improved. Further refurbishments will continue over the half term holiday too.

Thank you to those parents/carers who were able to attend the 'Meet The Teacher' session this week. Finally, it will be Harvest in a few weeks time, look out for the flyer with further details soon. Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the final few warm days.



## Trips and Assemblies

### Tuesday 24th Sept

Y6 Orienteering–  
Queen Elizabeth Park  
**Friday 27th Sept 9.15am**

Harvest Assembly

### Friday 18th Oct at 9.15am

Beech Class assembly

### Monday 4th November at 11am

Yr 3 trip to Barbican

### Monday 11th November at 11am

Yr 1 trip to Barbican

### Friday 15th Nov 9.15am

Hazel class assembly

### Friday 13th Dec at 9.30am

Christmas Show

### Monday 16th Dec

EYFS and KS1 Pantomime in the small hall

### Tues 17th Dec

Yrs 4 & 6 to Hackney

Empire pantomime

### Weds 18th Dec

Yrs 3 & 5 to Hackney

Empire pantomime

## Dates to remember

### Thursday 19th Sept 9.05am

Phonics meeting for Reception parents 9.05am

### Wednesday 25th Sept 9.10am

Destination Reader open morning for KS2 parents

### Thursday 3rd Oct 9.15am

Reception phonics open morning

### Thursday 10th Oct 4-6pm

Open evening for prospective families with children of all ages

### Thursday 5th Nov 3.30pm

Parent workshop–talk through games

### Thursday 14th November

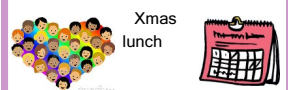
Individual photographs

### Thursday 5th December

Parents Evening & Book Fair

### Friday 6th December 3.45pm

Xmas lights Thursday 12th Dec



## Welcome to Benthal

We would like to welcome all our children and parents who joined us this academic year. Please feel free to ask any questions you might have about anything at school. Our office staff – Anna, Abby, Donna and Munira are always ready to help. The office is open from 8am to 5pm. Also, you can meet our SLT (Senior Leadership Team): Head teacher Ms Drew, Deputy Head Ms Williams and Assistant Heads Ms Nkaka and Ms Joseph at the beginning or end of the school day in the playground. If you would like to arrange a meeting with your child's teacher, please ask the office staff. If you need further help after speaking with your child's teacher, you should then see either Ms Nkaka or Ms Williams. If you then need further help, you are welcome at that stage to book an appointment with Ms Drew via the office.

We have a fortnightly newsletter, issued on Fridays, to keep our parents informed about everything happening at school. The newsletter is available on the school website and will be sent to all parents via e-mail from October 2019, so please ensure that the school office has your up-to-date e-mail address. If you would like to have a printed copy, please ask for one in

## School Uniform

Whilst nearly all of the children have returned wearing the correct school uniform, we have noticed a few children wearing trainers, different coloured zippy tops and jewellery. Please remember that it is black shoes and a school jumper or cardigan. Only watches or small stud earrings allowed. Please ensure your child is wearing the current school uniform.

## Benthal Reading Buddies Friday

Today was the first session of our whole school Reading Buddy Friday. Younger children had the chance to read their book to an older child or have their book read to them. It was a lovely start to a Friday morning, for twenty minutes. We will be doing this every Friday from now on.



## Term Dates 2019-2020

### Autumn Term 2019

- Mon 2 September - Inset day
- Half Term - Monday 21 - Friday 25 October 2019  
Last day of the term - Thursday 19 December 2019 at 1.30pm

### Spring Term 2020

- Mon 6 Jan—Inset Day
- Tues 7 Jan— Back to School
- Half Term - Monday 17 - Friday 21 February 2020  
Last day of the term - Friday 3 April 2020

### 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
- Inset days—Monday 20 July and Tuesday 21 July

## Parent Workshops

We would like all parents to know how you can help with your child's learning and homework, therefore we will be running parent workshops which you are invited to attend.

The following workshops are for Key Stage 2 Parents:

Wednesday 9th October: 9am-9.45am (Maths)

Wednesday 13th November: 9am-9.45am (Literacy)

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the workshops in order to work together as a team for Benthal pupils to achieve their full academic potential.

### Payments for School Services



School meals are free for Reception to Year 2 children and we would encourage new children to try our delicious and nutritionally balanced school lunches. Children in Years 3 to 6 pay £2.25 per day. If you think that you are entitled to free school meals, please apply for free school meals via Hackney Portal and our office staff can help you with your application. Please be reminded that payment for all school services is required in advance of taking the service. Please note all payments need to be made online via Scopay account as the school office is cashless.

Our Playcentre is open 3.30pm-6pm and costs £12 per day (£7 if your child is entitled to free school meals)

Benthal Breakfast club is open 8am-9am and costs £2 per day.

Afterschool Clubs are £2.50 weekly per club (and free of charge if a child is in the playcentre that day)

We still have some spaces for Lego, Tennis, Cooking, African drumming, Sewing and Football Afterschool Clubs.

Please pick up a form from the office to register your child for an afterschool club if you are interested as all clubs start from 16th September.

### Secondary School Applications

All Year 6 parents received an information pack last week explaining the process of applying for a place for your child in secondary school, including details of open evenings in September and October 2019. We would encourage you to visit the schools. The deadline for applications is October 18th, but please register as soon as possible. Late applications could hamper your child's chances of being offered a place in a Hackney secondary school. We are offering support sessions for any parents who are having difficulty with the online application or creating their e-admissions accounts. Please come after 9 am with six preferred school choices and your proof of address on either Tuesday 1st, Wednesday 2nd October or Tuesday 8th October.



### Homework Club

We are starting homework club for all year groups on Tuesdays from 24th September, 3.30pm-4.30pm. Please encourage your children to attend if they need any help with homework. Parents are welcome to join if they need help with how to help their child with their homework. The sessions are drop-in and will take place in Oak class.

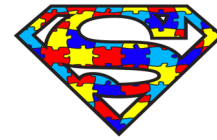
### Nursery

We have been making new friends and settling in. This term we will be learning 'All About Me'



### Reception

Our topic this term is Superheroes



### Year 1

Our topic this term is Here I am! We will explore our local area, learn about maps and look at how we have changed since birth.



### Year 2

This term we will be learning about Journeys into the Unknown'



### Year 3

This term our topic will be Stones and Bones



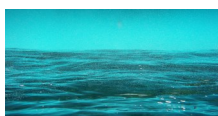
### Year 4

This term we will be learning about Ancient Greece.



### Year 5

Our topic this term will be Flow. We will be learning about the River Lea, Thames and Amazon



### Year 6

This term we are learning about World War Two.

