



Message from Ms. Drew

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents/carers that gave food for our Harvest assembly last week. We had lots donated with a good range of store cupboard items that can be created into filling meals. It will all go to support Hackney families in our local community. We will have another similar food collection in December.

We also want to help families with keeping warm when out-and-about this winter by presenting our 'pre-loved' winter coat drive again for 2023, for both children and adults. Please look out for the posters displayed in how you can donate a clean and usable 'pre-loved' warm winter coat.

October is Black History Month. We launched the celebrations with a variety of assemblies this week. All the children will be learning about a significant black person and how their achievements have had a positive impact on everyone's lives. We will share this 'irresistible' learning with you towards the end of the month.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all the parents and carers that are remembering to pack their mobile phones away once they come into the playground and the courtyard at drop off and pick up times. I have noticed an increase in families talking to each other about their days at these times, which is really lovely and exactly the purpose of having mobile free zones. This is a great start to this vital initiative to get grown-ups talking with their child to encourage conversation skills, please keep it up. If you forget to put it away, don't worry all the staff will give you a little reminder!

Have a great weekend and take care,

Ms. Drew



Curriculum News

The juniors have completed their science block and have begun their autumn block of topics for BCC this week with very interesting entry point tasks. We have had Year 6 being 'evacuated' to Canada and Devon, during WW2, Year 5 creating the flow of a river by reusing water bottles as pipes, Year 4 made Roman shields and finally Year 3 visited the Hackney School of Food, where they prepared and cooked Egyptian food. The infants begin their BCC block next week; watch this space for all the 'irresistible learning' happening at Benthal.



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The City & Hackney Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Alliance are currently involved in a service redesign project that aims for closer integration between Wellbeing and Mental Health in Schools Services (WAMHS) and the Mental Health Support in School Team (MHST). As part of this process, we are inviting the school community to consultations to hear about WAMHS & MHST and to give feedback and views about experiences and changes needed.

The online parent/carers forum will take place on Monday 30th October, 7-8pm. Attendees will receive £20 voucher as a "thank you" for their time (please note that the vouchers are not available from the school and will be sent to parents directly). Please register to attend and receive a Zoom link via: <https://bit.ly/45b8zwq>



Family Support Service

Do you need help with school admission forms?

We can help you with applying for free school meals.

Primary Admissions

Secondary Admissions

In-Year Admissions

Free School Meals

1-2-1 Support available for online eAdmissions forms and applying for free school meals



Wally Foster Community Centre
Homerton Road, Hackney, London, E9 5QB
info@ath.org.uk | 020 8432 6699 | www.ath.org.uk



DATES TO REMEMBER



Autumn Term 2023/2024

6th September – 21st December 2023

Half Term 23rd-27th October

Friends of Benthall Meeting

Friday 13th October – 9am in school library

Parents Evening

9th November 2023

Big Benthall Xmas Light Switch on & Winter Fair

Friday 1st December 2023

Christmas Break

22nd December 2023-5th January 2024

Spring Term 2023/2024

8th January-28th March

Half term – 12th February-16th February

Inset Days – 8th January 2024

Summer Term 2023/2024

15th April – 24th July

Half Term – 27th May – 31st May

Inset Days 2023/24

8th of January 2023

3rd of June 2023

24th of July 2023

FUNDRAISING BENTHALL CAKE SALES

We are stepping up our bake sales! FoB are planning to run three bake sales a term, each hosted by different year groups. First up is our early years - so Nursery, Reception and Year 1 parents, we need your help with baking or with helping out on the stall on Fri 20 October. Contact Lizzy if you can help in any way: 07944911852.
Friday 20th October: Nursery, Reception and Year 1 (in courtyard)
Friday 3rd November: Years 2, 3 and 4 (in large playground)
Friday 24th November: Years 5 and 6 (in large playground)
 Please bring cake donations to the school office on the day.



Friends of Benthall

Calling all Parents and Carers, old and new! Friends of Benthall is a parent/carer-led group and a registered charity that supports Benthall Primary School. We organise events for the kids, raise funds, share local info and generally help nurture Benthall's unique sense of community. We also run Bake Sales and the Summer and Winter Fairs among other things! We need MORE helpers to get involved. Please come along to our next meeting on **Friday 13 October 9am** in the school library where we'll be making plans for the Winter Fair after school on Friday 1 December.

If you require more information or have any questions, please email friendsofbenthall@gmail.com

Holiday Vouchers

If you think your child is eligible for means-tested free school meals, please apply as soon as possible via the link online <https://portal.learningtrust.co.uk/Synergy/> in order to receive the holiday vouchers for this October half term holiday. The value of the voucher is £20 and they can be used in most supermarkets.

Vouchers will be sent via email to parents of all children, entitled to means-tested free school meals (not Mayor of London universal free school meals) during the week beginning 23rd of October. Please let the school office know if you have changed your e-mail address.

REMINDERS:

- We still have a few afterschool club spaces left, please contact the school office if you are interested, the price is £3 per session. We offer basketball, tennis and boxing clubs free of charge for children entitled to means-tested free school meals.
- Please be reminded that Benthall school is cashless and we accept only online payments via scopay system and BACS. Please ask office staff for an access letter to your account if you are not sure how to log in.
- All children can get free school meals during this academic year, no application is required and we would encourage all children to try our new amazing autumn term menu prepared with love by Benthall Chef Alex.

