



Message from Ms Drew

Here we are, the end of this half term already.

The repairs and improvements will continue during the half term holiday.

The painting team have been doing a great job with all the walls. I hope you have been noticing the differences, we certainly have.

We have had some interest about the 5 day Easter Holiday Play Scheme.

A variety of arts and crafts activities, cooking, as well as a

range of sports will be on offer each day. It will be from

8.00am to 6.00pm, and would cost approximately £25-

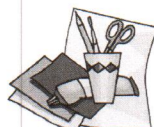
£30 per day. If you are interested, please leave your

name at the school office. I'll let you know if we are able to run it in the next few weeks.

Also, I'm looking for people that are professional bid writers to secure large amounts of money. If you, or someone that you know, has these skills, I would love to have a chat. With the forthcoming school funding cuts from the government, I need to look at ways to secure large amounts of funding for future projects for Benthal. Please contact me at pa@benthal.hackney.sch.uk.

Finally, a big thank you to you all for your continued support and love of Benthal.

Have a great holiday.



Dates to Remember

Monday 18th Feb—Friday 22

Feb
Half Term

Monday 25th Feb
INSET DAY

Thursday 7th March
World Book Day
Dress up as a character

Friday 8th March
Class Photographs

Thursday 14th March
Phonics Meeting for YR1
Parents at 9.05am (small hall)

Friday 15th March
Red Nose Day 2019
Dress in red and bring in £1

Thursday 28th Mar
Parents Evening

Thursday 28th Mar—Tues 2nd
Apr
Travelling Book Fair

Friday 29th Mar
KS2 Musical Show at 9.30am

Friday 5th Apr— 23rd April
2019
Easter Holiday

Assemblies

Friday 1st Mar
Serrula Class

Friday 8th Mar
Hornbeam Class

Friday 15th Mar
Juniper Class

Friday 22nd Mar
Magnolia Class

Wednesday 27th Mar
Reception Singing Assembly for parents

Trips

Friday 1st March
Reception to Transport Museum

Monday 11th Mar
YR1 to LSO Barbican

Wednesday 27th March
Year 3 to Horniman Museum

Tuesday 2nd April 2019
Year 2 to Evergreen Adventure
Playground



Attendance

Regular attendance is very important because pupils are more likely to achieve their potential when they attend school consistently. It's difficult for class to build their skills and progress if a large number of pupils are frequently absent. At Benthal we take attendance very seriously as low attendance can affect your child's education.

Please be reminded that no holidays will be authorised during term time.

Please note that there is also a penalty fine for all holidays taken in term-time.

Ms Ward and Ms Howard (our attendance officer) will schedule more attendance surgeries for parents of pupils whose attendance is low.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please get in touch, we are happy to support all families.



Reading in Year 1 and Early Years

Thank you to all the reception and Year 1 parents and carers who came in to read with their child yesterday and this morning.

The class teachers were pleased with the turnout and of course the children loved it!

This will continue to happen every Thursday for reception and every Friday for Year 1 from 9-9:10am

Do come along and bring a grandparent too!



Tax-Free Childcare Accounts

We would like to remind all parents that if you pay for Benthal childcare services (nursery additional hours, playcentre or breakfast club) you could also do so via online account for working parents, which will allow you to save 25% on your annual childcare bill. For every £8 you pay in, the government will add an extra £2, up to £2,000, per child, per year. To check if you are entitled or if you need help setting up an account, please speak to the school office staff.

TAX FREE

Benthal Values Certificate Winners

ARBUTUS— Israel **ASH**—Karis **ELDER**—Yasin **MAGNOLIA**—Omar

HAZEL— Umayyah **HORNBEAM**— Aleena **ROWAN**— Sassanya **JUNIPER**—Mariam

Payments for school services

Despite funding cuts and tight budgets, at Benthall we strive to deliver excellent quality extracurricular and childcare services to all our pupils. That's why it is essential that we get the payment for all our services in a timely fashion, in advance of pupils taking the service. Please ensure you check your child's online account regularly. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

The Governing Body

The Governing Body spent a morning in school last week and met with the School Council, in order to get some ideas on how we can market our school to prospective parents and pupils and secure social media coverage. Please see below some quotes from Benthall pupils:

"Teachers do their best to make you smart and are very kind."

"Lessons are fun and we learn a lot."

"I have lots of kind friends."

"Love that we are all different in the school (the way we look and our faiths)"

"We are like a family and we are kind to each other."

"Teachers are good and encouraging."

"After school clubs are really fun!"

"Love how in year 5 the teachers get us ready for SATS in a good way so that by year 6 we are ready."

"We all help each other and never give up!"

Nursery

Nursery have been learning about patterns that can be found on different minibeasts.

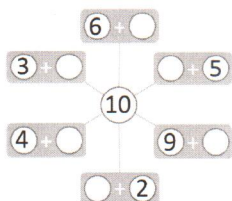


Reception

We were lucky enough to have parent volunteers come and talk to us about some Chinese New Year. Thank you Lucio's family!



Year 1



We have been learning about making number bonds from 10-20. Can you help us practice at home?

Year 2

This week we have been using an atlas to find the four countries and their capitals that make up the United Kingdom.

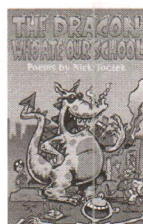


Year 3



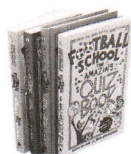
We have been writing play scripts about 'The Twits'.

Year 4



We began looking at performance poetry. Our top poem... 'The Dragon Who Ate Our School'.

Year 5



We have been learning about how football is an incredible tool for promoting education and had a workshop with two authors—Alex Bellos and Ben Lyttleton

Year 6



We held a dance competition across both classes in PE—Arbutus won!

Attendance

Well done Magnolia class last weeks winners with 99.5% attendance.