



Message from Ms Drew

Welcome back and I hope you had a lovely half term break.

It really is Autumn now, the weather is showing us that and the nights are getting darker earlier now. At this time of year, we all need to find the joy in the little things, a flock of about 100 parakeets flew over my car when I was driving home this week it was a wonderful mass of green, a beautiful sight.

It has been a busy two weeks with the children completing their BCC topic block the children have produced some phenomenal work and have a fantastic understanding of their topic. It is clear that they are using their writing and math's skills to help them with history and geography key knowledge and skills. Now the children will be starting their Art & DT topic block. We will put photographs of this in the next newsletter. I think you will be very pleased to see such high quality work in the children's books.

Of course we had Parents Evening before the half term break; with IEP meetings taking place in a few weeks' time. Thank you for coming, it was lovely to see you and for you to have the opportunity to look at your child's 'irresistible learning'. The teachers have told me that it was good to be able to talk about the children's attitude to their learning and behavior as well as answering your questions about the curriculum early in the term.

Also, it was Armistice Day on Tuesday last week. The children learnt about the meaning of 'Poppy Day'; and to wear their poppy with pride, 'At the 11th hour, on the 11th day, of the 11th month we will remember.'

Have a good weekend.

Ms Drew



Black History Month

Benthal celebrated the end of Black History Month on the last day of term, before the half term break. The children shared their learning in a special assembly, about significant Black Icons & Pioneers and how their achievements have had a positive impact on everyone's lives. We had acting & sharing of facts from classes and a song from Year 1!



International Day

It was also International Day at Benthal, where everyone dressed up in beautiful heritage and culture clothing for the day, celebrating the fantastic diversity at Benthal. We also shared food at the end of the day, huge thank you to everyone that brought a dish in to share, it was all delicious, and to those parents/carers that



CURRICULUM NEWS- KS2

Year 3

This term, Year 3 have had such a wonderful time diving into our poetry unit in literacy. We explored some of our favourite poets and learnt lots of clever techniques that make poems funny and enjoyable to read. The highlight was definitely our class poetry slam, the children performed their own poems with brilliant expression, confidence, and plenty of imaginative gestures!

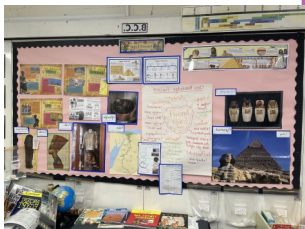
We've also really enjoyed our BCC topic on the Egyptians. The children loved learning all about life in Ancient Egypt, from daily routines to fascinating beliefs about the afterlife. One of our favourite activities was mummifying tomatoes, a messy but very exciting experiment that helped us understand the mummification process! We linked our topic to our reading lessons too, and the class especially enjoyed The Cat Mummy by Jacqueline Wilson. Our trip to the Petrie Museum was another standout moment, where the children were amazed to see real Egyptian artefacts up close.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a successful autumn term. In English, they explored a range of text types, including folktales, explanation texts, and information texts. They learned that folktales often include traditional characters, magical elements, and moral lessons; explanation texts are structured clearly to describe how or why something happens; and information texts present facts using features such as headings, subheadings, diagrams, and technical vocabulary.

In history, the children studied what life was like for Ancient Romans in BCC. Their trip to the London Mithraeum gave them a vivid insight into Roman life, allowing them to see real artefacts, understand Roman beliefs, and imagine what daily routines might have looked like. They learned about Roman clothing, food, housing, and entertainment, as well as the importance of religion, trade, and the army. This hands-on experience helped them develop a deeper understanding of how advanced, organised, and influential Roman civilisation was.



In science, the children investigated how solids can change into liquids and explored the effect of different temperatures on these changes. They observed melting, freezing, and evaporation, and learned that states of matter—solid, liquid, and gas—are determined by how particles behave. By measuring the impact of weather and room temperature at different times, they gained a clearer understanding of how heating and cooling influence these changes. Overall, it has been a term filled with curiosity, hands-on learning, and fantastic progress.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Year 3 and 4 Apollo Music Workshop

Friday 21st November

Year 1 to St Paul's Cathedral

Friday 28th November

IEP Week begins

Monday 1st December

Winter Fair and Xmas Lights Switch On & Dinner with Santa

Friday 5th December

KS2 Carol Concert

Wednesday 10th December at 2:15pm

KS1 & Reception Christmas Songs

Friday 12th December at 9:15pm

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 16th December



TERM DATES 2025/2026

Autumn Term ends

Friday 19 December at 1:30pm **No Playcentre**

Christmas Break

Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January

INSET Day

Monday 5th January **No pupils attend**

Spring Term begins

Tuesday 6th January

Half Term

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February

Spring Term ends

Friday 27th March

Easter Break

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Summer Term begins

Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May

Half Term

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May

INSET Day

Monday 1st June **No pupils attend**

Year 5

As part of our BCC topic of 'Flow & the Rainforest', the year 5 children were debating arguments for and against deforestation.

They highlighted key issues, such as the impact of logging and the loss of animal habitats.

