



Message from Ms. Drew

Welcome back to Benthal. I hope you all had a splendid summer holiday and all enjoyed the beautiful weather we had during August.

I have seen lots of smiling faces from children and parents/carers excited about being back. The children look so grown up in their uniforms. The staff and I are re-energised ready for this new academic year and we are also eager for the new term to begin.

The children have returned happy, calm and enthusiastic about their new classes & teachers and meeting new friends. I would like to welcome our new Nursery and Reception children and their families, we are delighted that you have chosen to become part of a very special and unique community that is Benthal School.

I would also like to welcome new staff to Benthal, Ms Sideri in Serrula Class and Ms Hay in Birch Class. We also welcome back to Benthal Ms Cammarata and Ms Boakyewaa.

The teachers have been sharing all the topics for this term with the children, making links with all the 'irresistible learning' that they will experience and the expectations around Home Learning and daily reading. Make sure you come to the Meet the Teacher session on Monday 16th September to find out more. Curriculum letters for this term will also be emailed to you next week. Please see all the diary dates for Autumn Term.

Please also remember that Benthal is a Mobile Free Zone. We are continuing with this initiative from last year to encourage all parents/carers not to use their mobile phone when coming into the playgrounds and court yard areas at drop off and pick up times. Instead we would like you to use those moments to speak to your child about their day and about their learning, about anything really. You could use the Chatter Time themes to help you if you are not sure. We are doing this because we would like to encourage all the children to have opportunities to talk more, especially children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1.

Please help the school to help your child by supporting this initiative. Benthal school staff will help you to remember to switch off!

The Benthal swifts that fly above the school left us in August. These tiny birds make their incredible journey back to South Africa for the winter; we won't see them again until May next year.

Have a lovely weekend and see you on 16th September at Meet Your Teacher session.

Ms. Drew



HAF SUMMER PLAYScheme

We had another successful Summer Playscheme at Benthal, provided free of charge for children entitled to means-tested Free Schools Meals.

This year we extended the scheme to children outside of Benthal.

The playscheme is funded by the DfE Holiday Activities and Food Programme, to encourage children to eat healthier, be more active, to socialise and take part in more physical and creative activities. A freshly-cooked nutritious lunch was also provided each day.

This summer, children took part in arts and crafts, board games, indoor and outdoor games, plus fun trips to Clissold Park, the Young V&A Museum and Homerton Grove Adventure Playground.

Our next Playscheme will be held over the Christmas holidays



Award-Winning Menu for the New Term!

Chef Alex has been working closely with ProVeg to develop a menu that is healthy, balanced, nutritious, and most importantly, appealing to children.

We are pleased to announce that our autumn term menu has been awarded a ProVeg bronze award for meeting all of these qualities and for striving to promote vegetarian options.

This award is a fantastic recognition of Chef Alex's continued hard work and creativity. We know how important good nutrition is to wellbeing and attainment. We at Benthall are proud to always strive for better, and Chef Alex will be going for gold next time!



Collection and Drop off Arrangements

Please be reminded that all parents are welcome to come into the school playground at drop-off and pick up times and wait with their child from Years 2-6 in the football pitch (the new astroturf area). Please note that the playground gate on Rendlesham Road opens at 8.40am, however, there is no school adult supervision until staff come on duty at 8.50am. Children on site in the playground during those 10 minutes remain the responsibility of their parents/carers. Juniper families must go to the classroom door with their child, at drop off time (8.55am) and pick up promptly at 3.25pm.

If you are not collecting your child after school, please let the office know in advance the name of the adult who will be collecting them.

Extended Childcare at Benthall

We continue offering all Benthall nursery and reception children free playcentre and breakfast club provision, please collect the registration form from the office if you are interested.

For Reception class pupils who have now moved up to Year 1, free extended childcare offer has now ended.

If you would like your child to continue attending extended services, Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day and the Play Centre is £13 per day.

For pupils, eligible for means-tested Free School Meals, Breakfast Club is free of charge and Playcentre is £8.50 per day.

All payments must be made online via ScoPay account before using any school services.

If you would like to register for our extended childcare provisions, application forms are available from the School Office. We accept childcare vouchers and Tax-Free Childcare payments.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Meet the Teacher

Monday 16th September 4.30-5.30pm

Harvest Festival Assembly

Friday 27th September—11.30am

International Day/Evening

Friday 4th October at 6.30pm

Parents Evening

Thursday 7th November 4-7pm

Year 3 trip to Barbican LSO

Wednesday 13th November at 9.30am

Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 5th November

Xmas Lights Switch on & Winter Fair

Friday 6th December at 3.30pm

Dinner with Santa

Friday 6th December at 6.30pm

Year 2 Barbican LSO Trip

Monday 9th December at 9.30am

KS2 Carol Concert

Wednesday 11th December at 2pm

Christmas School lunch & Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December

Year 1 & 2 Christmas Show

Friday 13th December at 2.30pm

Class Parties

Thursday 19th at 2pm

Term Dates

Autumn Half Term Holidays

Mon 28th October - Fri 1st November

Christmas Break

Friday 20th December school finishes at 1.30pm

Meet the Teacher

On Monday the 16th of September, parents are invited to come and meet their child's teacher from 4.30pm until 5.30pm, no booking is required.

Contacts and Medical Conditions

If your child has developed a new medical condition or allergy, please let the school office know as soon as possible and forward us the doctors' letter regarding this. If you require to arrange a meeting with our SENCO Ms Joseph or a school nurse regarding your child's new medical condition, please contact the school office.

If your child has asthma or an allergy, please ensure that the asthma pump and epi-pen medications, which are kept at school, are up to date. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.




NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE




**FUNDED PLACES FOR 2
YEAR OLDS AND
3/4 YEAR OLDS.**



**AM, PM OR FULL TIME
AVAILABLE**



**We have spaces available for September
in our friendly and inclusive Nursery.**



**CONTACT
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