



Message from Ms Drew

Welcome back to Benthal- I hope you all had a good half term break although the weather was variable.

It was lovely to see everyone on Tuesday morning. The children looked very smart in their uniforms. I can see that all the children have made an excellent effort to wear the correct Benthal uniform. Well done everyone, keep it up.

It certainly was a very busy and exciting half term for the children. Benthal celebrated the VE Day 80th Anniversary with our 1940s themed dress up day and our outdoor tea party. Whilst this was happening a number of Year 4 & 5 children were on residential to Kench Hill for the week. Year 6 completed their SATs and relaxed with a very successful trip to Thorpe Park. I went too! A massive thank you to Leon, Lucio's dad for making T-shirts for all the children, all the teachers had one too, even me. It was a lovely surprise. I loved wearing it with my name on the back in sparkly writing. It was a lovely touch. Thank you to Ezo's and Roya's mum for helping on the trip as well. We also had a number of classes on trips out and about in London. This has continued with Year 2 visiting the Florence Nightingale Museum for the first time this week. Please check the 'dates' section on this newsletter for all the events coming up this half term.

We have continued with block teaching for the afternoon lessons, you will be able to see the high quality work produced by the children at parents evening towards the end of the term. We will be organising it similarly to previous years, with all the children's books displayed in the small hall, showcasing their achievements, knowledge and skills. You will be very impressed

Finally, I will be sending out a letter in the next few weeks with information for next year's classes and teachers. The children will have their Meet the (New) Teacher session on Thursday 3rd July, (which is the same date as Secondary Transition Day for Year 6 pupils). I will be sending out the new class information before the session happens.

Thank you, to you, our Benthal families, for your continued support, it is always much appreciated.

Ms Drew

Message from Chef Alex - Let's Inspire Our Children to Eat Better!

As the chef here at Benthal, my top priority is always to make sure that every child has access to nutritious, delicious food every day. A varied diet is crucial, not just for physical health, but for overall growth and development.

I recently came across some great insights from the UK's School Food Standards and initiatives like the "Eat Them to Defeat Them" campaign. These programmes highlight the importance of encouraging children to try new foods, particularly those who can be a bit picky. Research from the School Food Trust also found that 4 out of 5 children who eat school lunches try foods they haven't encountered at home - a fantastic way to expand their palates and build lifelong healthy habits. https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-11154244?utm_source=chatgpt.com

My mission is to create meals that not only nourish but also inspire curiosity and adventure on the plate. It's about building a positive relationship with food from a young age, one that encourages kids to discover and enjoy a wide range of flavours.

So, I encourage you to support this journey at home. Talk to your children about what they tried at school, encourage them to experiment with different foods, and make mealtime a fun, exploratory part of the day. <https://www.henry.org.uk/fussyeating/creating-relaxed-mealtimes>

Together, we can help our kids develop a broader, healthier approach to eating, both in the dining hall and around the family table. Thank you for your support!





ZERO CARBON SCHOOLS

Dear Parents/Carers... We need your views!

[Green Schools Project](#) are on a mission to educate and empower young people to take positive action on the climate crisis. We're excited they are supporting our school with the final stage of their award-winning [Zero Carbon Schools](#) programme, where pupils design and lead their own projects to reduce our school carbon footprint.

Can you please [fill out this quick survey](#) to shape future pupil-led climate action?

We'd really appreciate your thoughts so we can involve the whole school community :)

Deadline: Friday 13th June 9:00am



DATES TO REMEMBER

Year 6 Sailing at West Reservoir

Weekly from Friday 13th June

PTA Friends of Benthall Logo Competition

Entries in by 9:00am

Monday 16th June

Year 6 to Hackney Museum

Tuesday 17th June

KS1 (Year 1-2) Sports Day at Hackney Downs

Tuesday 17th June

Family Support Drop In with Dionne Collins

Tuesday 17th June 3:30-4:30pm Library

KS2 (Year 3-6) Sports Day at Hackney Downs

Wednesday 18th June

Year 5 Eco Assembly

Wednesday 25th June 9:15-9:30am Small Hall

Infants Singing Festival at Round Chapel

Wednesday 25th June

Serrula Class Assembly

Thursday 26th June at 9.15-9.30am Small Hall

Year 6 Trip to Islington Museum

Monday 26th June

Early Years Singing Festival at Round Chapel

Friday 27th June

Food Week!

Monday 30th June - Friday 6th July

Early Years and KS1 to Clissold Park

Friday 4th July

KS2 to Clissold Park

Monday 7th July

Year 6 Trip to Ernst & Young HQ

Wednesday 9th July

Summer Term ends

Friday 18th July at 1:30pm **No Playcentre**

Benthall - A No Phone Zone Reminder

Please remember that Benthall is a Mobile Free Zone!

Benthall is asking all parents/carers and older siblings to please put away your mobile phone when coming into the playground and courtyard 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. 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. Benthall school staff will help you to remember to switch off.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS RULE CHANGE - 500,000 More Children Could Be Eligible

Government announcement: All children in England whose parents receive Universal Credit will be able to claim free school meals from September 2026.

Parents on UC will be eligible regardless of their income. Currently, households must earn less than £7,400 a year to qualify. The government says the change will make 500,000 more pupils eligible, "helping families who need it most", especially older children.

Currently in England, all children in reception to Year 2 are entitled to receive free school meals. For this academic year 2024-2025, the Mayor of London has introduced universal free school meals for all primary school children regardless of income. However, we still need parents who are receiving tax credits or benefits to apply, as this will allow schools to claim important extra funding that will benefit your child.



If you think you are eligible for Free School Meals, you can apply via Hackney Education at <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/apply-free-school-meals>

VE Day 80 Celebration

We had an extra busy day on Friday 9th May with special classroom activities learning about WWII and the historic importance of VE Day. We celebrated by dressing up in 1940s inspired outfits, and the whole school enjoyed a lovely Grand Tea Party outside!



Year 6 to Thorpe Park

Well done Year 6 on all your hard work and dedication this term.
We had a fantastic time and made some amazing memories on our fun day out to Thorpe Park!



Year 5 to Tower Bridge

Year 5 had a brilliant day visiting Tower Bridge just before the half term. We learnt all about how the bridge was once operated in the historic Engine Rooms, and experienced the unique view of the River Thames and traffic below through the glass floors!



PTA: FRIENDS OF BENTHAL

LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

Our old logo
needs updating!



ENTER BY
MONDAY 16TH
JUNE 9:00AM

CAN YOU DESIGN A BRAND NEW LOGO
TO LAUNCH THE BEGINNING AND FUTURE OF
PTA: FRIENDS OF BENTHAL?

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

KEEP IT SIMPLE!
ONLY USE THE WORDS:
PTA: FRIENDS OF
BENTHAL
OR PTA: FOB

USE A4 PAPER,
PORTRAIT LAYOUT.

MAKE IT BRIGHT AND
COLOURFUL!

IT HAS TO BE AN
INDIVIDUAL WORK,
YOU CANNOT WORK
WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

YOU CAN USE A
COMPUTER TO CREATE
YOUR LOGO, OR
CRAYONS, FELT TIPS
AND PAINTS.

MAKE SURE IT IS
YOUR OWN UNIQUE
DESIGN, NOT A COPY
OF A LOGO ALREADY
BEING USED.

WIN A £20 GIFT
CARD TO BUY
ART MATERIALS!

REMEMBER TO WRITE
YOUR FULL NAME AND
CLASS ON THE BACK!

The winning logo will be announced at the Summer Fair in July!
You can still win even if you cannot come to the Summer Fair.
All future events will use the winning logo. Good luck!