

1st December 2023

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

This week we are having the Friday News on a Thursday, mainly so that we can remind families that the FOBS Christmas Fair will be taking place on Friday 1st December from 5.00pm to 7.00pm in the School Hall.

There are lots of stalls, including 'enterprise' stalls that children have been involved in organising; Ladybird Class have joined up with Butterfly Class for their 'Lollipop Game', Hedgehog Class are running a 'Gingerbread House Game', Rabbits will be running a 'Hook a Candy Cane' stall, with Badger Class running a 'Snow Ball Bounce, Fox Class a 'Guess the name of the Reindeer' and Owl Class 'Match the Card'.

I also have it on good authority that a certain someone from the North Pole will be visiting the school!

Refreshments will be available at the event. This year's wonderful Prize Hampers will also be raffled off. Please do come along, help support our wonderful FOBS and raise all important funds for the school at the same time.

Did you know that the school now has two life-saving Defibrillators on site? One is situated in the main reception area, with the other in the Kitchen Staff cloakroom at the KS2 end of the corridor. Both devices are registered with 'The Circuit' should they be needed in an emergency during school time.

This week both Mrs Askew and Miss Harrison have been getting 'festive ready' in both Breakfast and After School Club. Next week at After School Club there will be opportunities for children to get creative with some very special Christmas crafting activities. The following week, from the 11th to the 15th December there will be 'special' breakfasts on offer at Breakfast Club as well as the usual options. Sessions at both Breakfast and After School Club can be booked directly via the School Gateway App (<https://schoolgateway.co.uk/>).

Over the next couple of weeks, information will be sent home to parents/carers of children in Reception through to Year 6 about an opportunity to exchange a 'Golden Ticket' for a FREE session at After School

Club..... remember to keep checking book bags so that you do not miss out!

The Viking Workshop which took place at school on Monday 27th November was enjoyed by everyone involved. At one point a battle reenactment was taking place in our School Hall! Please be reassured no children or members of staff were injured! Photos from the day are both on Facebook and our school website. Thank you to Mrs Coyle for all her hard-work organising this opportunity for children.

Also, this week, it was lovely to see so many parents/carers coming into school and joining children in classrooms for their 'Stay and Learn' sessions. Parents/carers of children in Hedgehog Class are invited to join children next week from 2.30pm to 3.30pm on Wednesday 6th December.

With the arrival of December, our festive calendar very quickly starts to fill up. Following on from my earlier letter outlining dates and times for various activities, I can now confirm that a Carol Service involving children in Year 1 through to Year 6 will be taking place at Bentham Auction Mart on Thursday 14th December starting at 2.00pm until approx. 2.45pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in with this lovely service. Please wear warm clothing! Children will walk to and from the event with school staff and parents/carers should collect children from school at 3.30pm in the usual way.

Unfortunately, earlier in November, the County Cross Country Finals were cancelled due to bad weather. We have now received confirmation that this event has been re-scheduled for Tuesday 12th March 2024. Further details will be sent home to qualifying children nearer the time.

We have also received confirmation that our year 5/6 Girl's Football squad will be taking part in the North Craven Football Finals at Sandylands School in Skipton on the 11th December. Again more information has been sent home to the relevant children.

Next week, on Monday, our School Post Box officially opens marking the start of our in-house Christmas Card delivery service!

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On Wednesday 6th, it is the long-awaited trip to 'Jack and the Beanstalk' for children in Years 1-6. On the day of the visit can parents/carers please ensure that children arrive at school in plenty of time, and by **no later than 8.30am**. Children should be wearing their smart school uniform bringing with them a waterproof coat and a healthy snack in their pocket! Children will be provided with a special treat whilst at the theatre, which will include a drink but children may want an additional snack as well. Due to the start and end time of the performance, children will be taking a later than normal lunch when they return to school. If you have not already done so, can parents/carers please consider making a voluntary contribution of £13.00 towards the cost of this visit via Parentpay? Thank you.

Finally, as a school we are already planning ahead and starting to think about the new Spring Term! We have lots of exciting opportunities planned for children, including an After School Sports Club for children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 in addition to our Kanga Sports club. Please look out for more information being sent home.

Have a lovely weekend...will we see some snow!

Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

Next Week:

Monday 4th December 2023

Fish Star (Salmon)
Crunchy Topped Tomato Pasta
Jacket Potato

School Post Box Opens
3.30pm to 4.30pm Art Club (4/5)

Tuesday 5th December 2023

Chicken and Tomato Pasta
Seasonal Vegetable Hot Pot
Jacket Potato

AM : PE with Kanga Sports : Badger/Fox/Owl
PM : PE with Kanga Sports : Rabbit/Hedgehog

3.30pm KANGA Sports After School Club : Invited Children (4/6) – **KS1**

Wednesday 6th December 2023

Sausages and Yorkshire Pudding
Veggie Sausage and Yorkshire Pudding
Jacket Potato

8.30am Jack and The Beanstalk (Yrs 1 to 6)

2.30pm Stay and Learn (Hedgehog Class)

3.30pm Lantern Workshop (2/3) Invited Children

Thursday 7th December 2023

Chicken Korma
Veggie Korma
Jacket Potato

10.00am Keyboard Lessons (NYC Music Service)

3.30pm to 5.00pm Christmas Crafts

Friday 8th December 2023

Fun Day Friday : all children invited to join in with a school lunch

Pizza
BBQ Quorn Wrap
Jacket Potato

9.30am to 11.00am : BABY AND TODDLER GROUP in the School Hall

3.00pm Celebration Assembly (NO PARENTS/CARERS)

PM : Christmas Nativity Dress Rehearsal watched by the rest of the school, no parents/carers please (Years 1,2 and 3)

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Bentham Community
Primary School

Safeguarding Information – Keeping Children Safe

Safety around dogs

The bond between your child and dog can bring fun and happiness to family life. We don't expect our own dog to bite, but any dog can bite if they feel they have no other option.

Children are most likely to be bitten at home, by a familiar dog. Luckily most bites are preventable and close supervision is key.

A calm, happy dog is less likely to react unsafely to children's natural exuberance.

- Give your dog a safe space of their own where they can go if they need time out. Have a rule to leave them alone when they're there.
- Keep them occupied – physical exercise and mental activity help keep your dog happy.
- Teach your child to be calm and kind with your dog. Avoid shouting, teasing or restrictive cuddles.

Close supervision is the most important thing to keep children safe.

- Watch, listen and remain close when your child and dog are together.
- If either your dog or child seems unhappy, positively and calmly separate them. You can throw your dog a treat or toy, or lead your child away.
- **Understand your dog's body language** so you can spot signs they feel uncomfortable or stressed.
- When you know you'll be distracted during busier times, use safety gates to keep children and dogs separate. Or, take your child or dog with you.

Trigger times – teach your child to leave your dog alone when they are:

- Sleeping – no-one likes to be woken up suddenly.
- Eating or having a treat – they might think you're going to take their food.
- Have a toy or something else they really like – they might not want to share!



Your growing child – as your child changes, the risks can change too.

- Teach the rules to your child from an early age and keep explaining them as your child understands more.
- As your child becomes more mobile, review changes needed, like adding safety gates.
- Think ahead about your changing family life and new risks that can emerge. Read our fact sheet on bringing baby home.

Still worried?

- If you're worried by the way your dog is with your child, talk to your vet. They'll check your dog's health and can refer you to a qualified animal behaviourist.
- Visit the [Animal Behaviour and Training Council](https://www.animalbehaviourandtrainingcouncil.org.uk/) website to find a qualified behaviourist near you.



This work was supported by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID)

Apply for free school meals online

If you would like to apply for free school meals for your child, simply login to your [Synergy Parent Portal account](#) and follow the process outlined below. If you have previously applied for school admissions or funding for your two year old you will most likely already have an account. If not, you can easily [create an account here](#).

- STEP 1**
Enter your National Insurance Number/National Asylum Support Service (NASS) number and date of birth.
- STEP 2**
Select the child(ren) you wish to apply for. If you have previously applied for a school place for your child they will already appear on the dropdown list. If your child does not appear automatically, they can easily be added by entering their forename, surname, date of birth and gender.
- STEP 3**
Attach any supporting documentation, if necessary, this could include documents such as a copy of your Universal Credit statement.
- STEP 4**
A message will then be displayed stating that we will be in touch with confirmation details. The school(s) at which your child(ren) attends will be notified as soon as the application has been fully processed by our team (5 working days). Your child(ren) can then begin enjoying free school meals once the school has received this notification.



If your application is unsuccessful you can then move to a further screen to find out why this may be the case.

If you need help or wish to discuss your application please contact us:
Phone: 01609 533 405
Email: schoolwelfare@northyorks.gov.uk



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