

4th March 2022

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mrs McGregor

Welcome back from the half term holidays. I hope that everyone had a lovely break and managed to enjoy some family time. I enjoyed a trip to the tree top nets on Windemere for my little girl's birthday and was pleasantly surprised to bump into some children from school!

As parents/carers will be aware, earlier this week our Chair of Governors sent a letter home advising of a temporary change to the school's Leadership structure. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Mr Hiley is now on a period of leave from his position as Interim Headteacher. Following a Governors' Meeting held on the 28th February, it was agreed that I take on the role of Acting Interim Headteacher until Mrs Pearson returns from Maternity Leave in April this year. This course of action ensures that there is little disruption to school life and provides both security and continuity for your children. Can I please thank those parents who have been in touch offering their support. It really is appreciated. Please remember if you have any questions or concerns then please do get in touch with me.

When possible, I have enjoyed being able to meet parents on the playground, I hope to be able to keep this up, so do feel free to come and have a chat if you see me. I have also taken the opportunity to briefly visit all classes this week. When popping into classrooms it is lovely to see children engaged with their learning and soaking up all the information that the teachers are giving them. I have also taken the opportunity to go and see all the fun and action at our Baby and Toddler group, there is some great tuff tray provision and messy play for little ones and their parents to get involved in. I know that Mrs Buckley has been doing a fantastic job getting this Baby and Toddler Group back up and running and has welcomed the support from other Mums.

This week we have started selling Red Noses to help fundraise for Comic Relief. Noses can be purchased from the School Office and are priced at £1.50 each. I have been reliably informed that this year they are the 'wildest bunch' yet with a Lesser Spotted Rare Nose and Colourful Chameleon hiding in boxes!

Coach Mark Gunn's Multi Sports Camp and Activity was, once again, a great success. Coach Gunn has asked that the school pass on his thanks to all those who took part in the activity day for making it such a success. There

will be further activities available over Easter – look out in children's book bags for more information. Coach Gunn has also sent some photographs from the day which are attached to this newsletter.

As previously mentioned in the Friday News, can I once again just remind users of our car park to park sensibly and not block exit and entry routes – please also drive at sensible speeds when in and around the car park including when manoeuvring vehicles.

Earlier this week it was absolutely lovely to see children celebrating World Book Day by coming into school dressed as book characters – I am sure the residents of Bentham could not believe their eyes when they saw Knights, Princesses, Hungry Caterpillars, Harry Potters and other infamous book characters heading towards school!

Also this week, information has been sent home to parents/carers of children at the school about TWO Parent Governor vacancies that will be available on our Board of Governors in March and April this year. Being a Governor requires both hard work and dedication, but is also a rewarding role. If you are interested then please contact Sally in the School Office for more information or a Nomination Paper.

It is also with sadness that we have recently received the news that Mr Simon Willis, one of our Additional Governors has made the decision to resign from his post. As a school we would like to thank Mr Willis for all his expertise, support and dedication over the past couple of years.

On Wednesday this week, Mrs Cryer held a meeting for parents of children in Reception and Year 1 about reading. Thank you to those parents who managed to attend. If you were unable to make the meeting, but would like more information from Mrs Cryer about how you can help with your child's reading at home, then please do pop and see Mrs Cryer. To further help and support parents Mrs Cryer will be sending home some information to parents of children in Reception and year 1. It was a real joy to see parents back in the building and we are looking forward to there being more opportunities for parents to once again come into school.

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Next week on Wednesday 9th March, PCSO Ruth Pearson will be working with children in Year 6 and discussing the 'No more Knives or County Lines' campaign. Thank you to Mrs Cadman for organising this visit.

Finally, unfortunately, this week we have, once again, had a number of confirmed cases of Covid. Can I please remind parents about the importance of continuing to test for Covid in both children and other family members. Whilst it may no longer be a requirement by law to self-isolate if you catch Covid, I think everyone will agree it is still imperative that we try to stop the spread of this virus. Please also consider the impact catching the virus could have on other members of the community. Thank you.

Have a wonderful weekend. I hope you are all beginning to enjoy the longer days as we move into Spring - I know I am.

Mrs Alison McGregor
Acting Interim Headteacher

Vacancies at Bentham C P School

We currently have a vacancy for an enthusiastic, friendly and approachable **Midday Supervisor**. This post is for FIVE hours per week, term-time only. We also have a vacancy and opportunity for an **EYFS Teacher (Nursery)** and a **General Teaching Assistant**. For more information about these exciting vacancies please visit :

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers>

Copy job adverts, Job Descriptions and Application Forms are also available by request from Sally in the School Office.

FREE Parenting Clinic During March, Anisa Lewis (Positive Parent Coach) is running two FREE Parenting Clinics focussing on Emotions of young people. Clinics will be held via Zoom with the first clinic taking place on Thursday 17th March for the duration of 30 minutes. There are two timeslots available, 10.00am and 8.00pm. For more information, or a link to join one of the sessions, please e-mail aduckett@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Return of Baby and Toddler Group

We are absolutely delighted to confirm that the Friends of Bentham School are once again offering a '@Covid secure' Baby and Toddler Group session, every Friday, term-time only in the School Hall. The next session will be on Friday 11th March 2022 from 9.30am until 11.00am.

PE Days

Nursery:	Thursday (AM)
Class 1 :	Tuesday/Friday : PM (including Nursery children who stay for afternoon sessions)
Class 2 :	Tuesday/Wednesday
Class 3 :	Monday/Tuesday
Class 4 :	Monday/Tuesday
Class 5 :	Monday/Tuesday

Dates for your Diary

Monday 7th March 2022

Chicken Korma
Vegetable Korma
Jacket Potato

Tuesday 8th March 2022

Macaroni Cheese
Sweet and Sour Vegetables with Rice
Jacket Potato

Guitar Lessons (Mr S Redfern)

3.30pm – 4.20pm After School Basketball Club

Wednesday 9th March 2022

Roast Chicken
Cheese and Tomato Pasta
Jacket Potato

1.00pm No More Knives or County Lines Workshop (Yr. 6)

Thursday 10th March 2022

Nacho Beef Bake
Vegetable and Bean Chilli with Rice
Jacket Potato
5.30pm Governors' Meeting

Friday 11th March 2022

Battered Fish
Roast Vegetable Roll
Jacket Potato
9.30am – 11.00am Baby and Toddler Group in the School Hall

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Bentham Community
Primary School

Useful Addresses

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers>

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