

7th May 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mr Hiley

Dear Bentham Families

I hope that everyone managed to enjoy Bank Holiday Monday, even if the weather was not on side! At least any outdoor plants did not need watering?!

Next week, (hopefully) construction of the new footpath around the circumference of the school field will start. This will mean that there will be builders and, inevitably building materials on the school field for a couple of days. Risk Assessments have been put in place to ensure that there will be no contact between contractors and children/staff at the school, however, can I please ask that when collecting and dropping children off at school, parents ensure that children do not venture onto the field to take a look at the works in progress (similarly for adults!). Again, and by way of a reminder, when waiting for children in the playground, please do not allow children to play with any of the outdoor equipment – this is because certain apparatus has been allocated to individual bubbles to help ensure there is no risk of cross-contamination from outdoor equipment should there be a case of Covid at the school. Thank you.

On Thursday, I ventured outside into the school's wildlife garden to join children in Class 2 with their Forest School Activities. It was absolutely wonderful to see the whole class actively engaged and thoroughly enjoying outdoor learning.

As parents may have seen on both the national and regional news this week, unfortunately, cases of Covid appear to once again be escalating in the region. Naturally, this is disappointing news, and news that does confirm that Covid is still very much an active threat to us all. I can appreciate that measures that are in place at school are sometimes an inconvenience or logistically difficult, but these measures are in place as an attempt to keep us all as safe as possible. At a recent Governors meeting, lengthy discussions took place about the impact of 'wider' opening and how the easing of restrictions will affect day-to-day life at school. After much consideration, it was unanimously agreed that all measures currently in place at school

will continue as they are until the end of the Summer term. Arrangements will be reviewed once again prior to the start of the next academic year in September 2021. I am sure everyone will agree that changing systems and routines that are in place at school with only a few weeks of the Summer term remaining could be potentially disruptive to children and/or prove not to be the right decision should the national picture change following the relaxation of some rules. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their continued support, and for taking the time to contact me with any concerns or ideas that they may have, which would potentially help make life at school a little more 'normal' than of recent.

Please remember, if any member of your household displays any one of the symptoms of Covid, then please do not send children to school and self-isolate until a Negative PCR Test result is received.

At the time of writing, Mrs Reid is busy with children at our After School Cooking Club. There are some absolutely delicious aromas drifting down the corridor. This will be the final week of Cookery Club for children in the first 'batch', with children in the second group starting their turn at the club next Thursday, 13th May 2021. As previously reported in the Friday News, the response to our Cookery Club was amazing and, unfortunately, there were not enough places available for the number of children who wanted to join in. Please be reassured that staff are looking at running future sessions; more information to follow shortly. Thank you to Mrs Reid, Mrs Askew and Miss Hayward for making this opportunity happen.

On the 17th May children in Class 5 will be taking part in a visit to Keasden Head Farm supporting their learning about plants. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in some hands-on study. Thank you to The Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust for funding this visit in full. Can parents please ensure that consent forms for this visit are returned to school by no later than **Monday 10th May 2021**.

Have a lovely weekend, stay safe.

Mr Hiley - Headteacher.

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Lateral Flow Tests

Lateral Flow Tests for regular and routine testing are now available to everyone and have proven to help in the fight against Covid. Tests can be ordered at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>. If you are struggling to secure an LFD kit, then please get in touch with the school as we may be able to help.

Reminder With the weather proving to be what can only be described as 'unpredictable' at this moment in time, can I please remind parents/carers to ensure that children come to school with appropriate clothing for the day, e.g. waterproof coat, hats, sun-hats etc. Thank you.

A few important pieces of information for week beginning 26th April:

PE

Nursery – Tuesday

Class 1 – Friday

Class 2 – Tuesday and Friday

Class 3 – Monday and Tuesday

Class 4 – Tuesday and Wednesday

Class 5 – Tuesday and Thursday

Monday 10th May 2021

Footpath construction around school field.

Deadline for return of Consent Form : Keasden Head Farm

Tuesday 4th May 2021

3.30pm – 4.30pm After School Tennis Club (pre-booked Class 5)

Wednesday 5th May 2021

3.30pm – 4.30pm Jigsaw Club for invited children

Thursday 13th May 2021

3.30pm to 4.30pm After School Cooking Club (week 1 of 3). Pre-booked children.

Friday 14th May 2021

Deadline for ordering Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

Soccer Hub

Soccer Hub will be running a Spring Bank Holiday Camp on Tuesday 1st June to Friday 4th June 2021 at Bentham Sports Field. The cost of the camp is £80 per child for four days (£65.00 for second and subsequent siblings/friends). Places are limited. For more information, please contact Jordan Armstrong, Course Co-ordinator on 07702 497273 or e-mail soccerhublynsey@gmail.com. (www.soccerhub.org.uk).