

11th February 2022

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mr Hiley

With just one more week to go until our February half-term break, I would once again like to thank parents and carers for all their continued support over the past few challenging weeks! Thankfully, this week, we have had no further confirmed cases of Covid here at the school. However, infection rates are still high in the wider community so, as a school, we would still recommend that parents/carers test children regularly for Covid, regardless of whether they are showing any symptoms.

When school re-opens after the half term holidays, there will only be a matter of days before we start selling Red Noses in aid of Comic Relief. This year noses are priced at £1.50 each, plastic free and a 'wild bunch'.....

This year we will once again be supporting fundraising for 'Rock your Socks' day on 21st March 2022. All monies raised donated to supporting children with Down Syndrome. More information about this fundraising opportunity to follow.

Over the half-term holidays Coach Mark Gunn will once again be delivering a Multi Sports Camp and Activity Day here at the school. More information has been sent home previously with children. If you would like your child to attend this highly popular and fun activity, then please complete and return booking forms by no later than Tuesday 22nd February. Alternatively, please contact Coach Mark Gunn directly at coachmarkgunn@gmail.com. Telephone : 07912 178917.

As I am sure parents will be aware, the school does offer instrumental music lessons via NYCC Music Services. Lessons are available for numerous instruments, including singing lessons. We currently have a number of children learning how to play the electric guitar. Mrs Green (parent to Frankie, Nancy and Esther) has recently very kindly donated an electric guitar for school use. If you think your child would like to learn this instrument, or any other instrument, then please get in touch with the school office. In connection with music lessons, there will be no guitar lessons with Mr Redfern on the 15th February.

As mentioned in last week's Friday News, recently car parking issues have been relatively light, however last week there were a number of issues raised by concerned

parents and members of staff. Can I once again please remind users of our Car Park to park sensibly and not block exit and entrance routes. Additionally, with environmental issues at the forefront of everyone's minds, I am sure everyone will agree we all have to do our bit to help save our planet. With this in mind, can users of the car park please consider not sitting in their cars with engines running whilst they wait for children to finish/start school – every little helps in the fight to protect our fragile planet.

This week the new Summer Term Menu has been released by North Yorkshire County Caterers. Our Menu choices have been sent home with children. If your child will be taking a school lunch as from April 2022, the start of the Summer Term, can parents please complete and return their child's meal choices by 28th March 2022. Please remember that choices can be changed over the term and our wonderful school cook can, in most instances, accommodate additional dietary requirements, including dairy free. There are THREE meal choices every day, a main meal, vegetarian option or a Jacket Potato. All school meals are freshly prepared on site daily using only locally sourced fresh ingredients. School Meals are excellent value for money, priced at only £2.10 per meal for children in Nursery, FREE of charge for ALL children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 and £2.55 per meal for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. In some instances, and where financial circumstances may have recently changed, you may be entitled to Free School Meals, this includes additional financial support for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2. For more information please contact Sally in the School Office. Please be reassured that all enquiries will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Earlier in the week, I received an e-mail from NYES Catering Services, congratulating our amazing kitchen staff, Lila and John, for being identified as 'NYES Catering Shining Stars'. This is a real testament to the amazing job both Lila and John do at the school and what delicious meals children are served every single day. AMAZING work! I am sure everyone will want to join me in congratulating our school cooks and thank them for providing such delicious meals on a daily basis.

With apologies for the very short notice, but we have only

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just received information from North Yorkshire County Caterers about an exciting 'design a Mascot' competition. The closing date for entries is Saturday 12th February 2022. For more information see attached poster.

I am absolutely delighted to be able to confirm that Miss Sarah Richardson will be returning from maternity leave on Monday 21st February 2022. Miss Richardson will be back teaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings in Class 2, with Miss Wilson leading the class on Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays and Fridays.

As some of you may know, this week was Children's Mental Health Week. At school we have been very busy engaging with children about this very important aspect of life. Children have engaged in Mindful Yoga, made a 'Well-being Well' which involved thinking about what helps when worried or upset and also thought about 'Hot Air Balloons' using them to promote thoughts about 'what lifts us up when we are feeling down'.

In Nursery children experimented with shapes made of ice! It was amazing to see how different icy shapes could be made to balance on top of one another.

Finally, this week the weather has been a little damp on many occasions! Here at the school we do like to encourage children to go outside at playtimes – this has been scientifically proven to improve learning and help with mental health. Can parents please ensure that children have a waterproof coat and suitable footwear to go outside in at school on rainy days – thank you.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr T Hiley

Interim Headteacher

Class 4 & 5 Residential

Don't forget we will be holding an information meeting for parents, carers and children at 5.30pm on Wednesday 16th February in the school hall where we will be able to outline the week along with associated costs and answer any questions. All parents/carers and children welcome.

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 a dedicated individual to work alongside Mrs Duckett in her role as Family Support Assistant; For more information about this exciting vacancy and post details 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.

Parentpay

Unfortunately, despite last week's reminder, there are still a number of accounts – now 80 (a further week on week increase) on Parentpay currently showing an outstanding balance. Can I please ask that parents check that all payments are up-to-date. Please remember if you have any queries regarding these arrears or if you have difficulty making payment, contact the school office sooner rather than later to discuss this further. In some cases a mutually agreeable repayment plan can be put in place with the school. Failure to make payment towards outstanding debts may result in the arrear being referred to North Yorkshire County Council's Legal Team.

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 18th February 2022 from 9.30am until 11.00am. The Baby and Toddler Group will not be taking place during half term – Friday 25th February 2022. If you have a pre-school aged child, then please do pop along to this friendly informal group – we look forward to seeing you!

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

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REMINDER Breakfast Club and After School Club

Breakfast Club runs EVERY weekday morning from 8.00am to 9.00am and is available for children in Reception to Year 6 inclusive. Full sessions run from 8.00am to 9.00am and are priced at £4.00 per child, per day, including breakfast and refreshments. Half sessions run from 8.20am to 9.00am and are priced at £2.00 per day per child, including refreshments.

After School Club runs Monday to Thursday, term-time only from 3.30pm to 4.30pm and is priced at £3.00 per session, per child. Places at both clubs need to be pre-booked via the School Office. (admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk).

Dates for your Diary

Monday 14th February 2022 (MENU CHANGE)

Special Valentines Lunch

Forever Yours Chicken Fajitas
Be Mine Bean and Vegetable Burrito
Whole Lotta' Love Potato Wedges
Crazy About You Carrots and Perfect Peas
Paris Shortbread Sandwich with City of Love Custard

Tuesday 15th February 2022

Chicken and Pasta Bake
Vegetable Hot Pot
Jacket Potato

NO MUSIC LESSONS THIS WEEK (Mr S Redfern)

3.30pm – 4.20pm After School Basketball Club

Wednesday 16th February 2022

World Religion Day

Minced Beef and Yorkshire Puddings
Vegetable Casserole and Yorkshire Puddings
Jacket Potato

8.30am- 9.00am Maths Drop In (Year 6)

5.30pm Residential Meeting (Classes 4 and 5) in School Hall

Thursday 17th February 2022

Fish Fingers
Veggie Burger in a Bun
Jacket Potato
3.30pm – 4.15pm Maths Drop In (Year 6)

Friday 18th February 2022

Sausage and Mash
Vege Sausage and Mash
Jacket Potato

9.30am – 11.00am Baby and Toddler Group in the School Hall

3.30pm School Closes for Half Term Holidays

Monday 28th February 2022 School Re-opens 'World Book Week'.

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>

admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk
Nursery@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk
class1@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk
class2@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk
class3@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk
class4@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk
class5@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

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Bentham Community
Primary School

Catering MASCOT Competition

Help design our new mascot!

Send your designed mascot
(and its name!) to

charlotte.firth@northyorks.gov.uk

Please also include your *name*, your
age and your *school*.

Don't forget to let us know what
makes your design great!

Closing date:
Saturday 12th
February 2022

Get
Creative

Put your
design skills
to the test

NYES | Catering



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