



Friday 11th December 2020

Autumn Term : Edition 12

Dear Parents/Carers

Earlier this week I sent home a letter to parents/carers providing information about our last day of term, Friday 18th December 2020. Just to confirm that class Christmas parties will be taking place that day and children are invited to come into school wearing party clothes should they choose to do so.

As a reminder, please can I ask that if your child tests positive for Covid19 during the school holidays that you contact myself immediately using the parents@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk. Please do not phone the school during the Christmas holidays as there will be no answer and no one will be monitoring the answerphone. Please do not use class emails or the admin email as these will also not be monitored over the holidays. I will check the above email address twice a day up to and including Christmas Eve and take any necessary action to contact families if there is a need for any child to subsequently self-isolate. I sincerely hope this will not happen but this system will be in place to help keep us all safe.

If your child will not be returning to school in January due to illness or self-isolation, please contact school on the first day back, Tuesday 5th January 2020 as normal on **015242 61412** or admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk. Thank you.

Can I once again remind parents about using the school's car park safely. Please do not double park, block other cars in, park in the gateway or abandon vehicles. I would also ask that parents consider walking to school, or alternatively, if distance is the issue, driving only part of the journey to school, parking up in a safe and legal place and walking the remainder of the journey to school.

With only one week until the end of term, I can honestly say that the festive spirit is truly up and running here at the school! Children are all busy practising, and in some cases filming (clue), their 'elusive' Christmas Entertainment. More information and personal invites to our red carpet virtual 'Premiere' event to follow shortly...

Next week sees children attempting to Run to Lapland. By way of a reminder, children (with the exception to those in Class 1) will set off from school

at their allocated time on an allocated day and run towards Low Bentham, before turning round at a festive check-point and running back to school. We are hoping that the miles accumulated by everyone participating will add up to 145!

On the day of your child's run, they should come to school in their PE kit, children are also welcome to wear a Christmas hat or headband for the 'race'.

14/12/20	1.15pm	Class 3
16/12/20	9.15am	Class 5
16/12/20	11.00am	Class 4
17/12/20	1.15pm	Class 2

At the time of writing, I keep glancing out of the window to take a sneaky peak at Mrs McGregor and a group of mesmerised children from Class 1 all taking part in Forest School activities in our Wildlife Garden. This week children are busy painting wooden Christmas Trees, making wooden Christmas baubles and learning to tie knots. Everyone was also treated to a hot chocolate and snack, served from a Kelly Kettle after a busy morning of outdoor activities!

Finally, this week letters have been sent home to parents of children in Classes 2,3,4 and 5 inviting them to take part in a series of Outdoor Wellbeing Days at Ingleborough Hall. Can I please encourage parents to make a contribution towards the cost of these days, which will be an ideal opportunity for children to focus on fun activities outdoors, engaging with friends, learning new skills and strengthening emotional wellbeing.

Have a lovely weekend, stay safe.

Mrs Pearson

REMINDER Christmas Craft Activities If you have not already done so, can parents/carers please consider making a contribution of £4.00 towards the cost of materials and resources for children's Christmas Craft Activities. Payment should be made via Parentpay. Thank you.

REMINDER : ALL CHILDREN, ALL CLASSES Children in all classes are invited to join in with Christmas Lunch (including a Vegetarian option), which will be taking place on Tuesday 15th December 2020 in the School Hall. There is no need to pre-order, meals can be ordered during registration on the day. Meals are priced at £2.10 each for children in Nursery, FREE for ALL children in reception, years 1 and 2 and £2.55 each for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals there will also be no charge. Payment for meals should be made via

Parentpay. If you have any difficulty accessing Parentpay please contact Sally in the School Office.

Also on the 15th December, Mrs Nelson has been busy organising an 'Elf Day', to help raise all important funds for the Alzheimer's Society. This terrible disease can affect anybody, and not only affects the patient, but family and friends as well. Children are invited to come to school, dressed as Christmas Elves or sporting a seasonal Christmas themed Jumper or festive item of clothing in return for a voluntary contribution. All funds raised will go to the Alzheimer's Society to help support their continued excellent work.

The Friends of Bentham School Can we just say a massive THANK YOU to the FOBs for all their continued hard work. This year the FOBs have once again been busy creating some lovely prize Christmas Hampers. Thank you to everyone who has purchased a raffle ticket to help raise funds for the school. Tickets will be drawn on Tuesday 15th December, be in it to win it! Please remember that all funds raised help ALL children in ALL classes.

SETTLE SWIMMING POOL This year, to help fundraise for Settle Pool, Bentham Town Council have agreed to donate any profits from the sale of its annual calendar to the pool. The calendar contains some lovely pictures that have been taken around the local area, not just Bentham.

Please help to fundraise and support our local pool by purchasing a calendar. Calendars will be on sale via Settle Pool's website:

<https://www.settleswimmingpool.co.uk/fundraising/how-can-i-help/>

The Friends of Settle Swimming Pool annual general meeting will be taking place via zoom on Thursday 10 December starting at 6.30pm. All supporters of the pool are invited to attend what will probably be the final meeting of the Friends as the decision was taken last year to hand over our resources to the main pool committee and wind up the organisation once contracts have been signed for the new building work at the pool. Which it is hoped will start in the spring.

Here is the link to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83212290830?pwd=aVV6OGtyUjg2T0pqZGZXRnk3dWFiUT09>

Meeting ID: 832 1229 0830
Passcode: 895039

FUN DAY FRIDAY Did you know, if your child does not regularly take a school meal, then we are once again offering the 'Fun Day Friday' option! This is an excellent opportunity for your child to try a delicious freshly prepared school meal – on a Friday! Meals can

be secured by e-mailing admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk. School Meals are FREE for ALL children in Reception, Years 1 and 2, FREE for children eligible for Free School Meals, £2.10 per meal for children in Nursery and £2.55 per meal for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Friday Meal choices are either:
Sausage in a Bun/Falafel Burger/Jacket Potato
Fish Fingers/Loaded Potato Skin/Jacket Potato
Beef Burger in a Bun/Sweet Potato and Lentil Curry/Jacket Potato
Payment should be made via Parentpay.

NYCC SEND Provision If you child has been identified as having special educational needs and/or disabilities then NYCC and PCV are striving to work more closely with parents in local areas to ensure services are working for children, young people and their families. Parents are invited to join local parent/carer virtual meetings where information will be shared about the new SEND Hub structures and discussions will take place about services moving forwards. Craven's ZOOM meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 10th December 2020 from 10.00am until 11.00am. To find out more, or to book a place please visit the events page on the Parent Carer Voice website www.parentcarervoiceuk.org/events. Further information is also available via e-mail at info@parentcarervoiceuk.org.

Breakfast Club Every weekday morning (term-time only) in the School Hall. Full sessions, including activities, breakfast and refreshments run from 8.00am until 9.00am and are priced at £4.00 per child per day. Half sessions are also available, priced at £2.00 per child per day including activities and refreshments. If you would like your child to join our Breakfast Club provision, please e-mail admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk to pre-book a session. Thank you.

Uniform and Leisurewear Company Limited The Uniform and Leisurewear shop based in Lancaster, have confirmed that they will once again be opening their shop on the 4th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 14th, 16th and 18th December 2020 between the hours of 9.30am and 4.30pm. Uniform is still available to purchase online at www.ualonline.com.

Parentpay Can we please remind parents/carers to regularly check their child's Parentpay Account. Please remember, if you are financially struggling and are unable to pay off an outstanding Parentpay debt then please contact the school. There are options available, including making small weekly contributions. Failure to contact the school about an outstanding balance may result in a referral being made to NYCC's Legal Team.