



Friday 14th December 2018

Autumn Term Edition 13

Dear Parents

Our last Friday Newsletter of the term and for 2018! I want to begin by sharing two success stories from our school. Firstly, **CONGRATULATIONS** to children in Class 3 who, on behalf of the school, have recently achieved their BRONZE Green Tree School Award. In order to achieve the award, children have applied for a Woodland's Trust Tree Pack, planted trees in the school grounds, learnt about CO2 emissions, listened to 'The Man Who Planted Trees', presented by Liz Roodhouse in assembly and visited woodlands over the past twelve months. Next term, children will be working towards the highly acclaimed SILVER award – well done and congratulations to everyone involved. This is the first activity forming part of our 'Bentham Outdoor Project' (B.O.P) and we look forward to every class being part of this project next term. A huge **WELL DONE** and congratulations to Joe, Asher, Dan, Finlay and George who all represented the school on Monday 10th December at a cluster Basketball Competition. Our children were excellent ambassadors for the school and community – they also WON the competition! The boys played with enthusiasm and displayed great teamwork. Three Cheers to our victorious team.

A few children have started to come to school wearing very colourful and lovely shoes and boots! However, these are not dark coloured and often come with added fur, sequins and jewels. Please can I ask that all children return to school in January with a pair of shoes that meet our uniform policy?

Finally, I would like to say **THANK YOU**, on behalf of all the staff, to you as parents/carers (and grandparents!) for the wonderful support this term. As a school we continually strive to make it a happy, safe and fun place to be, alongside providing the best education for children. It is important that the partnership between parents and school continues to be a positive one. I wish you all a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs Pearson and all the staff

SCHOOL MEALS The new 'Spring Menu' will soon be available on the school website.

www.benthamcpschool.org.uk. For a paper copy of

the Spring Menu, please see Sally in the School Office; There are some old familiar favourites, including Margherita Pizza, Fish Fingers and Chicken Korma together with some welcome warming winter dishes, including Cottage Pie, Vegetable Stew and Dumplings and Taffy's Pie. Please remember that as from January 2019 meal prices will increase to £2.00 per meal for a child in Nursery, and £2.45 per meal for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Children in reception, years 1 and 2 will continue to be provided with a meal FREE of charge. As I am sure everyone will agree, school meals continue to be excellent value for money, and not only encourage social meal-times, but also offer a warm, freshly prepared meal and dessert during the lunch-time period. We are mindful that a lot of parents may be missing out on Free School Meals. If you think you may meet the new criteria, then please request an Application for Free School Meals from the School Office. Please be reassured that all applications and enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

Motor Neurone Disease As readers will be aware, Motor Neurone Disease is a disease which affects the brain and nerves. Currently there is no cure. Tragically, one family at Bentham C P School has recently lost a close family friend to this rare condition. To help raise all important funds for the Motor Neurone Disease Association, who help to fund and promote global research into this terrible condition, Teddy, in Class 3, has decided that he will run a minimum of ONE mile per day during December 2018. At the time of writing, Teddy has already clocked up an amazing 35 miles! It would be lovely, if everyone could help Teddy raise not just awareness, but more funding for this charity by sponsoring his activity. Alternatively, contributions can be made in the collection box which is in the School Office. Well done Teddy.... Keep on running! If you would like to join Teddy on his runs, please contact Laura Davy via Facebook. Thank you.

Beauty and the Beast Children in Classes 3, 4 and 5 will be taking part in their trip to The Grand Theatre, Blackpool on Thursday 20th December 2018. Children will leave school, by coach, at 11.30am returning for 5.30pm. Additional information about this exciting seasonal visit has been sent home via children's book bags. Can we thank parents in advance for not parking in the School's Car Park when collecting their children at 5.30pm.

Have you got what it takes to Discover Bentham's

Nutcracker? If you can find the 10 Nutcrackers hidden in Bentham Shops, then you might be in with a chance of winning a wonderful prize! Entry forms are available from the School Office.

Winter Weather Can we just remind parents to ensure that they send children to school with a coat, hat and gloves. Children thoroughly enjoy being outdoors, but this time of year heads and hands can quickly become chilly! Thank you.

SNOW CLOSURE In the event of school having to close due to adverse weather conditions, then a text will be sent to parents by no later than 8.00am. We would also, in the case of bad weather, encourage parents to check the school's website for regular up-dates. As is usually the case, the school will endeavour to keep open.... Whatever the weather!

KS2 Christmas Performance for Senior Citizens Can we just remind parents/carers to let friends and family know about our exclusive 'Senior Citizens' KS2 Christmas Performance which will be taking place on **Monday 17th December 2018**. Admission is FREE of charge. Refreshments, including mince pies will be served to members of the audience following the show. Let's help make Christmas just as magical for the older generation in our community. **For more information about all our Christmas activities, please see the separate letter which has been sent home via children's book bags.**

FRIENDS OF BENTHAM SCHOOL The FOBS will be holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 2nd February 2019 at The Town Hall. There will be lots of fundraising stalls, including a Tombola, Cake, Jumble and Raffle. Any donations to any of the sales tables would be very much appreciated. If you are available on the 2nd February and would like to help serve tea, coffee and refreshments, then please contact a member of the FOBS. Please remember that any support no matter how great or small is really appreciated and that all monies raised go to help ALL children in ALL classes. Thank you.

Macy's Homeless Appeal Following on from the article in last week's Friday News, we would like to thank all those parents, carers and families who have helped support Macy's Homeless Appeal. Macy is still busy collecting hand-warmers, gloves, hats, socks, scarves, toiletries and much more to distribute to the homeless. If you would like to make a donation, then please contact Macy's mum on 07557 415093. Thank you.

PARKING The recent bad weather has once again highlighted how difficult it is to park at the school during peak times of the day! Can we just remind parents to please park sensibly and, if possible, avoid blocking other vehicles and the main entrance to the school? By way of a reminder, the allocated Disabled spaces should only be used by Blue Badge holders. Thank you.

Save the Children Help to raise money for 'Save the Children' by 'Guessing Who's Under the Mistletoe'! Take your guess on the quiz sheet in school's Reception - £1.00 per go, all monies raised to Save the Children. There will be a festive prize for the winning guess! Thank you.

What's on next week?

Monday 17th December 2018

2.00pm KS2 Christmas Performance for Senior Citizens (children in years 3,4,5 and 6) – Ticket Required
Music Lessons: Mrs Brennan (Flute/Keyboard)

Tuesday 18th December 2018

9.00 Year 5 at Ingleborough Climbing Wall
3.00pm Carol Service at the Auction Mart. Can parents please make arrangements to collect children from the Auction Mart.
6.00pm Nativity, Nursery, Reception, years 1 and 2 (no ticket required)

NO LUNCHTIME FOOTBALL

NO BASKETBALL

Wednesday 19th December 2018

Music Lessons : Mr Hinchcliffe (Accordion)
2.00pm Nativity (Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 2) : No ticket required

NO JAMMIE DODGERS

6.00pm KS2 Christmas Performance : Entry by ticket

Thursday 20th December 2018

Beauty and the Beast : Classes 3, 4 and 5

Friday 21st December 2018

Christmas Party Day! Children are invited to come into school dressed in their best party clothes.

School Closes at 3.30pm and re-opens on Tuesday 8th January.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year