

15th October 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mr Hiley

Firstly, on behalf of the staff and Governors, please accept the school's sincere apologies for having to cancel Parent Consultations at such short notice on Wednesday 13th October. Unfortunately, there was a major incident involving our internet and telecoms supplier, causing a complete 'outage' just before lunchtime on Wednesday. Service was not restored to school until 3.50pm that afternoon. As I am sure everyone will appreciate, there was absolutely nothing that could be done by the school with circumstances being totally out of our control.

Staff have rearranged the Parent Consultations which will now take place on Wednesday 3rd November. Times will be the same as previously allocated. If you are unable to make your appointment time on the re-scheduled date, then please contact Sally in the School Office. Similarly, if you have any urgent concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher through the usual systems. Again, apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Next week, we will be saying a very sad goodbye to Mrs Horton, who is retiring. Mrs Horton has worked at the school for over 27 years supporting children's learning. Mrs Horton's last day will be Wednesday 20th October. Whilst we all wish Mrs Horton the very best for her retirement, I am sure everyone will agree she will be greatly missed by all.

Also leaving us next week is Mrs Townley who has been an MSA at the school for several years. Mrs Townley will also be missed by staff and children alike. We would all like to wish Mrs Townley the very best of luck in any future ventures.

We do still have a vacancy for an MSA. If you, or anyone you know might be interested in this position, then please contact the School Office.

Interviews took place last week for a General Teaching Assistant's position here at the school. Following a difficult shortlisting exercise, due to the high standard of applicants applying for the post, and the formal interview process which took place last Friday, I am very pleased to be able to inform parents that Mrs Mcleish will be joining the school in November. Mrs Mcleish is a very experienced GTA and is very much looking forward to

joining the team here at Bentham. If you see Mrs Mcleish, please do say hello.

This week children were all involved in an assembly which was taken by our local PCSO, Jane Grace. PCSO Grace talked about how you can still have fun but stay safe at Halloween. Attached to this newsletter are copies of leaflets that PCSO Grace left at school. If you would like a paper copy, then please contact Sally in the School Office.

PCSO Grace also dropped some information off about Parking at School and keeping everyone safe on the school run. Again, copies of this leaflet are available from the School Office.

On Monday 11th October children in Class 4 were all treated to a surprise visit to 'Sweetie Sue's' on Station Road in Bentham. This might sound like a delight, but little did children know, the visit formed part of their English writing unit! As I type, children are now busy writing stories, set in a sweet shop! Reliable sources have informed me that it was not, however, all work, work, work, with children returning to school with a pot of pick and mix each (sponsored by Mrs Cryer)! Massive thank you to Mrs Cryer for organising this visit and 'Sweetie Sue' for providing children with some additional free sweets on the visit! Obviously, children were encouraged to clean their teeth well before going to bed that night!

This week we received information from North Yorkshire County Council about Proposed School Admission Arrangements for 2023/2024. In accordance with NYCC's statutory duty under the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulation 2012 NYCC are consulting on proposed school admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools.

The Consultation opens on 11th October 2021 and closes on 3rd December 2021. Details can be viewed at www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations.

If you wish to respond to the consultation, please e-mail schoolorganisation@northyorks.gov.uk. Please remember the closing date for this consultation.

Recently children in classes 2 and 3 joined forces whilst getting creative! Over a number of afternoons, African themed hand-printed tiles were formed. These wonderful

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masterpieces will be exhibited around the school so that everyone can enjoy children's creativity.

For those parents of children in Nursery and born between 1st September 17 and 31st August 18 information has been sent home about how to apply for a Primary School Place for September 2022. The deadline to apply for a school place is **15th January 2022**. Please remember you must apply for a school place, even if your child has an older sibling who already attends the school you would like them to attend, or if they currently attend a Nursery provision attached to the school. More information is available at www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions.

Finally, this week has, unfortunately, seen an increase in seasonal sickness and diarrhoea cases here at the school. Can I please remind parents, that if children are either sick, have diarrhoea, or both, then they should NOT return to school, until 48 hours from the last incident of illness. These rules are in place to help ensure bugs do not spread and to try and keep everyone as safe as possible. If your child is poorly, then please remember to contact the School Office on 015242 61412 or, alternatively e-mail admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Have a lovely weekend, one more week until a well-deserved rest over half-term.

Mr T Hiley

Interim

Headteacher

Arts Projects for School This year all children have once again been given the opportunity to design an exclusive Christmas card. This card can be ordered for purchase via Arts Projects for School. On Monday 18th October, children will be bringing home their exclusively designed Christmas Card together with instructions on how to order bulk copies of the design. Original cards must be returned to school by 22nd October 2021. For more information, please see the separate letter being sent home with children on Monday.

Covid-19

There is clear evidence (ZOE Covid Study) that a runny nose and cold like symptoms are now the most common symptoms of Covid infection in unvaccinated children. This is challenging as we move into the usual Autumn cold and flu season therefore, we would strongly recommend

that if your child is showing mild cold symptoms including a runny or blocked nose you test regularly with an LFD (Lateral Flow Device) test. By following guidance, we can help prevent the spread of Covid and protect our friends, families and communities. Advice from the Government continues to states:

“Do not use a rapid lateral flow test if you have COVID-19 symptoms as listed on the NHS website. [Get a PCR test](#) as soon as possible and [self-isolate](#), while awaiting the result even if symptoms are mild”.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

By way of a reminder, please do not send your child to school if they have any symptoms that could be attributable to Covid without undertaking an appropriate test. Please remember, that in line with advice from the Local Authority, it may be deemed necessary to send a child home, or not accept them in class if they are displaying covid symptoms and have not been tested. As is always the case, thank you to everyone in advance for their co-operation, support and understanding.

Bonfire Night Menu

All children are invited to join in with a special Bonfire Night Celebratory Lunch on Friday 5th November. Meals can be ordered during registration.

On the Menu :

Sloppy Joe Style Sausages in Bun

Bonfire Bean and Cheese Pie with Crusty Bread

Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn and Peas

Jacket Potato

Chocolate and Vanilla Swirls with an Apple Wedge

Meals are priced at £2.10 each for children in Nursery, FREE of charge for ALL children in Reception, year 1 and 2 and £2.55 for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Meals are also FREE for all children eligible for Free School Meals.

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Payment should be made via Parentpay and deposited before Friday 5th November 2021.

Crossing Patrol Service

We have received a number of comments about children not listening to the instructions given by our Crossing Patrol Officer, this includes crossing before it is safe to do so. We have spoken to all children in assembly about the importance of using the crossing patrol both before and after school and would also like to ask that parents reinforce this and remind children of the importance of waiting until they are told to cross the road when using our crossing patrol service. Thank you.

PE Days

This term, our PE days are, as follows:

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Nursery : | Tuesday/Friday |
| Class 1 : | Tuesday/Friday |
| Class 2 : | Tuesday/Wednesday |
| Class 3 : | Monday/Tuesday |
| Class 4 : | Monday/Tuesday |
| Class 5 : | Monday/Tuesday |

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

These are difficult times, with financial circumstances changing on an almost daily basis for some families. In some instances, families may be missing out on Free School Meals. Whilst ALL children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are eligible for UNIVERSAL free school meals, families may also be entitled to some additional financial support. Free School Meal eligibility for children in younger year groups includes universal entitlement and additional pupil premium funding which helps support children in school with their learning. If you think you may be eligible for some additional support, then please contact Sally in the School Office. Please be reassured that all applications will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 18th October 2021

Fish and Sweet Potato Cake
Cheese and Onion Quiche
Jacket Potato

Tuesday 19th October 2021

Macaroni Cheese

Quorn Rainbow Pie

Jacket Potato

3.30pm-4.20pm After School Basketball Club

Wednesday 20th October 2021

Roast Chicken

Vegetable Roast

Jacket Potato

Forest Schools for Group B (parents will be aware)

Thursday 21st October 2021

Mexican Tortilla Boats

Vegetable and Bean Tortilla

Jacket Potato

3.30pm-4.30pm After School Cooking Club (3 of 3)

Friday 22nd October 2021

Fun-Day-Friday

Beefburger in a Bun

Vegetable Sausage in a Bun

Jacket Potato

3.30pm School closes for October Half-Term

Monday 1st November 2021

School Re-opens

Connie's Chicken Quesadilla

Five Veggie Pasta

Jacket Potato

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Bentham Community
Primary School

When **you** trick or treat...

Remember:

- Go with a group of friends or an adult
- Tell an adult where you are going and when you expect to be back
- Stick to well-lit areas and take care crossing the roads in the dark
- Stay on the doorstep - don't enter a house
- Don't throw flour or eggs - they can cause damage and hurt people
- Take care not to scare elderly people
- If you see a sign saying "no trick or treat", don't knock on the door



ARE YOU A SMART TRICK OR TREATER?

- Stay in areas that are lit with streetlights - take a torch with you just in case
- Although Hallowe'en is supposed to be spooky, be careful not to frighten elderly people
- Don't enter any house, stay on the doorstep
- only go to houses where you or your friends know the residents
- Always go trick or treating with an adult
- Throwing eggs and flour is anti-social behaviour and will get you into trouble
- Be visible
- Stay with your friends. Don't split into smaller groups unless an adult goes with you
- Don't knock on doors where there is a sign saying No trick or treat here
- Don't talk to strangers on the street

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE
101 IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

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Be part of the solution, not the problem!

It may be worth considering car sharing, walking to school a few times a week or setting up a walking bus with other parents. Recent research shows that children who walk or cycle to school arrive better prepared to learn, so there's more benefits to walking that just less traffic.

We can't always leave the car at home, but even on the days you do have to drive, consider parking just a bit further away and walking that last part of the journey.

It all helps keep everyone that little bit safer going to or coming home from school.



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Parking at school

Keeping everyone safe on the school run



Getting to school can be one of the most stressful and rushed times of the day and parking nearby can sometimes be problematic.

This leaflet provides some handy tips on how you can take some of the stress out of the school run and keep everyone safe.

Parking inconsiderately can endanger other road users, particularly pedestrians who have to navigate around cars which have been parked on pavements or across driveways.

Here are a few simple steps that everyone can take, which will help ease congestion around school and keep everyone moving safely.



Please do

- keep your speed low
- ensure children get out of the car onto the pavement - never let a child out onto the road
- check for pedestrians and cyclists before you open the car door
- stop for the lollipop person
- park a bit further away from school to help reduce the traffic

Please don't

- block the road - emergency vehicles may need to get through at any time
- park on yellow lines or zig zag markings
- park on pavements, across driveways or on dropped kerbs
- park where your vehicles will cause an inconvenience
- stop in the road to let your child out of the car
- park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction

If you do, you run the risk of receiving a Traffic Offence Report, which could result in a fine and points on your licence