

16th December 2022

# FRIDAY NEWS

*A nurturing family, learning together*



Message from Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

2022? It flew by! Later today we close our doors for the Christmas Holidays and say goodbye to 2022.

This week has been extremely busy with lots of Christmassy activities, including a visit from Santa! Thank you to the FOBS for helping to co-ordinate Santa's gifts to children. Can we also thank the Spar in Bentham who helped to source so many Selection Boxes for Santa, and for donating a number of selection boxes to give out on Party Day.

Our Christmas performances were an absolute joy to watch, as I am sure all our audiences will agree. It was lovely to once again welcome families back into school to watch children take part in their festive performances.

This week I have sent information home to parents/carers detailing leadership of the school whilst I am on maternity leave. I am planning on being back in school during the first week in January, but as I am sure everyone will appreciate, you never quite know when 'baby bumps' decide to make an appearance! Please do say hello and introduce yourself to our new Interim Co-Headteacher, Mrs Besharati when you see her in and around the school.

This week Mrs Williams has been very busy teaching children in Butterfly and organising our new Nursery classroom. Our new separate Nursery Class 'Ladybirds' will be ready to welcome children after Christmas. Thank you to Mrs Williams for all her hard work – we are really looking forward to Mrs Williams becoming a daily member of the team in the New Year.

Previously, I have mentioned that our booking system for Breakfast and After School Club will be changing in the New Year. This change will still be taking place, but it is looking like the system will not be launched until the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. We are very excited about launching an App that will allow parents/carers to book sessions on-line at both our Breakfast and After School Club, but as with most things technical, it can sometimes take a little time! This does mean however, that places will have to be booked via the old system for the first three days back – please contact the school office to book places for the first week back. Thank you to parents/carers for their patience and for working with school whilst we set up this new system.

Again, this week, we have received confirmation about a number of cases of Scarlet Fever, an infection caused by Strep A at the school. Please remember, if in doubt, contact your GP immediately. Whilst Scarlet Fever is a common childhood illness, and is not usually serious, it does need treating with anti-biotics to reduce the risk of complications.

When we return in January, we will be starting our new Spring Term Menu, a copy of which has already been sent home with children. There are lots of lovely meals to choose from, with a main, vegetarian or jacket potato options available to choose from every day. This week I have received information from County Caterers, that due to the increasing cost of living, meal prices are looking like they might have to be increased. I am currently liaising with Governors as to how the school can work with parents to ensure the price increase to parents is as small as possible. I will be able to confirm any changes over the Christmas holidays, so please check your e-mails for information.

Can I remind parents of children in Year 5 that children will be starting their swimming lessons on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Please ensure that children have their swimming kits with them every Friday. If you have not already done so, please also consider making a contribution towards the extensive cost of providing swimming lessons to children. Thank you.

Looking at Parentpay, there are a number of accounts that are currently in debt. Rather than sending letters home with children reminding parents to make payment, can I save some trees, and instead ask for parents/carers to check their children's Parentpay accounts and ensure that all payments are up-to-date or in credit. This is especially important for Breakfast and After School Club as we move into a new digital transition period!

As mentioned in previous newsletters, Mrs Reid is retiring at the end of today. Mrs Reid has supported children at the school for over 22 years and will be greatly missed by children, staff and Governors. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Reid a very happy and long retirement. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Askew will be taking over the role of Breakfast and Afterschool Club Manager assisted by Miss M Harrison.

Finally, on behalf of the staff and Governors at the school, we would like to wish everyone a very Happy

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Christmas and New Year. Stay safe, keep warm, and see everyone back on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

## Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

SCHOOL OPENS

Roast Turkey and Stuffing  
Sweet Potato and Vegetable Bake  
Jacket Potato


## Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Chilli-con-Carne  
Cheesy Bean Enchilada  
Jacket Potato

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Fish Fingers  
Quorn Chili Wrap  
Jacket Potato  
1.00pm Year 5 Swimming Lessons

*Feeling the pinch?*  
Join . . .



**The Pantry**

*to top up on food and groceries.*

**Open Wednesdays  
11am – 12 noon  
and  
4pm – 6pm**

On Station Road, High Bentham,  
left side of Methodist Church

Contact: 07942 364606 or  
Facebook: Pop Up Pantry Bentham

Operated with Churches Together in Bentham.

**NEW  
Opening Hours**

Open NORMAL HOURS on the 21<sup>st</sup> December.  
Open 11.00am to 12.00 m/d on the 28<sup>th</sup>  
December 2022.

## Safeguarding Information – Keeping Children Safe

Have any concerns? Just because school is closed does not mean you cannot access help. Visit the North Yorkshire Children's Safeguarding Partnership Website for more details if you are concerned about a child.

[NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](http://safeguardingchildren.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023

School Closed

### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

School Closed to Children  
Staff Training

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